



KERATAN AKHBAR

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Penang aims to end water disruption for good

➤ New cross-channel pipeline to be completed next year

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GEORGE TOWN: Penang, which depends significantly on other states such as Kedah for its water, hopes to eliminate supply disruption for good with the completion of another cross-channel submarine pipeline.

The pipeline connecting the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant in Seberang Perai and Bukit Dumbar Pumping Station in Penang Island would deliver up to 315 million litres of

treated water daily, benefiting 500,000 people. Two such pipelines were commissioned in 1973.

Penang Water Supply Corporation chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa said the latest pipeline project, which has been divided into three packages, is scheduled for completion by the end of next year.

Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow said the project was necessary to address potential supply problems in the future.

"This is part of Penang's commitment to

ensure that the entire island, particularly Balik Pulau, receives a consistent supply of quality water," he said.

Former Tanjung Bungah assemblyman Teh Yee Cheu had recently warned that proposed developments near Penang Hill could cause problems to water supply because it is also a catchment area.

"The issue is not just about connectivity but also dwindling resources for the northern region's water catchment areas."

He said the main source of water to Penang, the Ulu Muda Forest Reserve and the Kuala Muda river, were endangered as a result of logging activities and mushrooming of plastic waste treatment plants nearby.