



KERATAN AKHBAR

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SPAN to probe odour pollution

Agency looking into raw water source over the Sg Semenyih plant shutdown

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PETALING JAYA: The National Water Services Commission (SPAN) will investigate the odour pollution of the raw water source that led to the shutdown the Sg Semenyih water treatment plant last week.

SPAN said stern action would be taken against any person or party who had released the contaminant, or had allowed it to be released into public sewers or any public sewage treatment facility, under Section 61(1) of the National Water Services Industry Act 2006 (Act 655).

It added that if found guilty, the accused can be fined not more than RM100,000 or

imprisoned not more than a year or both as stated under Section 61(2) of the same Act.

SPAN clarified that the source of the odour pollution was not from the sewage treatment operations conducted by Indah Water Konsortium Sdn Bhd (IWK).

"The cause of the pollution is suspected to be from illegal waste disposal near the Bandar Mahkota sewerage treatment plant.

"We have also told IWK to take immediate action to reduce the odour pollution at the plant," it said in a statement yesterday.

SPAN noted that IWK have also been told to closely monitor its plants so that there would not be illegal waste disposal activity near its plants.

IWK had also denied allegations that the odour pollution had originated from its sewage treatment plant in Bandar Mahkota, adding that the pollution was due to the illegal waste disposal near its plant.

On Saturday, water supply cuts affected 372,031 households in the Petaling, Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat and Sepang districts in Selangor as the Semenyih river treatment plant had to shut down due to the odour pollution.

Some 204 areas involving 372,031 accounts in Petaling, Hulu Langat, Kuala Langat and Sepang were affected by the unscheduled water cuts.

The closure resulted in the reduced production of treated water by up to 357 million litres

a day.

The water treatment plant fully resumed operations the next day.

Currently, Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd (Air Selangor) said water supply in Hulu Langat had been fully restored, while full restoration was still in progress in Petaling, Kuala Langat and Sepang.

Air Selangor's customer relation and communication department head, Abdul Raof Ahmad, said supply had been restored as at noon yesterday.

He urged consumers to get the latest information through the Air Selangor mobile app, its website at www.airstelangor.com, its customer call centre at 15300 or via WhatsApp at 019-281 6783 or 019-280 0919.