

19.2.2019

PRESS STATEMENT

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HOT AND DRY WEATHER IN PENANG: PBAPP RAISES THE ALARM TO SAVE WATER AND REDUCE CONSUMPTION.

- **Air Itam Dam effective capacity dropped from 92.2% on 1.1.2019 to 67.3% on 18.2.2019.**
- **Water consumers are advised to use water wisely.**

PENANG, Tuesday, 19.2.2019: Due to hot and dry weather, the effective capacity of the Air Itam Dam has dropped by 24.9% in the period 1.1.2019 – 18.2.2019.

The following table shows a summary of the changes in the effective capacities of Penang's two main dams since the beginning of the year:

Dam	Effective Capacity		Difference
	1.1.2019	18.2.2019	
Air Itam Dam	92.2%	67.3%	- 24.9%
Teluk Bahang Dam	78.8%	79.1%	+ 0.3%

Low rainfall is the primary reason for the dramatic drop in the effective capacity of the Air Itam Dam. In the period 1.1.2019 – 18.2.2019, the rainfall gauges at this dam have recorded only 94 mm of rain.

In comparison, the rainfall gauges at the Teluk Bahang Dam recorded a total of 172.5 mm of rainfall since 1.1.2019.

Accordingly, Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) has implemented its dry weather water supply control measures to ensure water supply sustainability until the wet season arrives.

Please note that the Air Itam Dam stores raw water that is used for water supply operations in the Air Itam township and surrounding areas.

HIGH WATER CONSUMPTION IN AIR ITAM

High water consumption is the secondary reason for the significant drop in the effective capacity of the Air Itam Dam since 1.1.2019.

Last year, in the period 1.1.2018 – 18.2.2018, the average daily drawdown of water from the Air Itam Dam was 0.15% of the effective capacity per day. The following table shows the increase in raw water drawdowns from the Air Itam Dam since 1.1.2019:

Time Period	Average Daily Drawdown	Increase
1.1.2018 – 18.2.2018	0.15%	-
1.1.2019 – 31.1.2019	0.40%	+ 167%
1.2.2019 – 18.2.2019	0.64%	+ 327%

Evidently, water consumption in the Air Itam township and surrounding areas had shot up due to hot and dry weather conditions, as well as festive celebrations, during the period 1.1.2019 – 18.2.2019.

Such a high level of water consumption is dangerous, especially when the raw water storage in the Air Itam Dam is being depleted significantly.

As such, PBAPP seeks the understanding and cooperation of all water consumers in Air Itam and the surrounding areas.

Kindly reduce your daily water consumption immediately.

The people must also play their roles to save water in support of Penang's "no water rationing" policy. Please note that we cannot accurately predict when the rains will arrive to refill the Air Itam Dam.

WATER SAVING TIPS

1. The most important water saving tip is to avoid using a hose, as far as possible. Hosing wastes water.

2. Consumers should avoid washing their cars or motorcycles frequently. If your vehicle is dirty, please use a bucket, sponge and wet cloth to clean it.
3. Water your plants and gardens by using a watering can instead of a hose.
4. Fix all leaking taps, pipes or toilet systems immediately.
5. Do not leave any taps running needlessly. Teach your children to shut taps properly.

For more water saving tips, please visit www.pbapp.com.my.

Please use water wisely during this hot and dry season in Penang. Let us work together to save water until the wet season arrives.

Thank You.

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PBAPP : HOT AND DRY WEATHER IN PENANG SINCE 1.1.2019



PBAPP : AIR ITAM DAM EFFECTIVE CAPACITY AT 67.3% ON 18.2.2019.



PBAPP : AIR ITAM DAM STORES RAW WATER THAT IS USED FOR WATER SUPPLY SERVICES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF AIR ITAM AND SURROUNDING AREAS.