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Residents taking grouses to PM

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MORE than 800 disappointed residents of Wangsa Permai in Kepong will send a memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as their complaints to the various authorities have not been acted upon.

About 150 pages thick, the memorandum contains correspondence between the residents and the developer Palm Grove Housing Sdn Bhd, the Housing and Local Government Ministry, Selayang Municipal Council and news cuttings dating until December last year.

It also highlights the problems faced by the residents since they moved in four years ago.

Resident Lai Yik Her said until now they had yet to receive individual land titles.

He said even after a year of correspondence and meetings with the numerous authorities, little progress was achieved.

He said they even sought the help of Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Azmi Khalid, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, Selayang MP Datuk Chan Kong Choy, Rawang State Assemblyman Datuk Tang See Hang and Paya Jaras State Assemblyman Datuk Saidin Thamby over the matter.

Lai added that last week, a residents' representative contacted Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Ting Chew Peh's office, seeking his help in settling matters with the developer.

"His personal assistant Khoo Boo Seng said "...the Minister has no power to take action against the developer, Palm Grove Housing'. Instead, we were asked to take up the case in court," Lai said.

He said the developer had also been cutting down a hill behind Jalan Wangsa 2/8, causing several flash floods last year.

Lai said the developer had failed to hand over the sewerage treatment plant to Indah Water Consortium, even after four years. "We were told by IWK that Palm Grove has been asked to fix the bio-filter before handing the plant over to them.

"Even Datuk Azmi Khalid, during a visit in January, has directed Palm Grove to upgrade the plant but until now nothing has been done."

Another resident Loh Lai Yee said recently the residents were sent a letter containing a statement of quit rent and assessment arrears backdated to 1993 amounting to RM1,019.57.

She said the letter was not justified as they had been paying assessment to MPS since 1996.

Loh added that the residents were currently using a temporary access road that cut through Keretapi Tanah Melayu reserve land. She said the new access road, which was under construction, was too narrow and would become a bottleneck once the housing area was fully developed and occupied.

"The access road joins another access road for Desa Aman Puri housing estate. The population density of both housing estates will surely cause massive traffic jams," she said.

Wangsa Permai estate alone contains four blocks of 17-storey apartments, about 500 double-storey houses and shophouses.

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