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Article reflects accurate reporting

Chee Meng Sang

SHAHRIMAN Johari's Adisatria column titled "California dreaming? Not in Malaysia, surely" (Business Times 8/5/01) gave a balanced view of the future of the electricity supply industry. The writer brings together three events: the California power crisis; the Eighth Malaysia Plan confirmed that industry reforms will continue; and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced last week that the Government is re-examining the industry's restructuring process. This was followed by an analysis which attempted to show why the latter will not stop.

Such views appear to be directly opposite those of an international consulting firm which used the California crisis to prove that deregulation is bad. The consultant, who advised Tenaga Nasional Bhd, was even quoted as saying that the British electricity Pool system was being scapped. We know this is not true.

I was on the verge of believing that your paper was short of reliable sources of news on the power industry. With this latest analysis by Shahrیمان, my confidence in your ability to produce accurate stories remains intact.

Keep it up.