

Emergency motion on EDL toll rejected

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An emergency motion to discuss the problematic Eastern Dispersal Link (EDL) highway project was rejected by Parliament today.

In dismissing the motion in chambers, Dewan Rakyat speaker Pandikar Amin Mulia said the project was now in the final stage of consultation between the government and the toll concessionaire.

The 8.1km toll expressway, built by Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd (MRCB), connects the end of the North-South Expressway Southern Route at Pandan with the Sultan Iskandar Customs, Quarantine and Immigration Complex (CIQ).

NONEEr Teck Hwa (DAP-Bakri) (left) filed the emergency motion on grounds that it is specific, of public importance as it involved RM900 million with a 34-year toll concession period, and urgent as the highway is set to open at the end of this month.

According to reports, Malaysians and Singaporeans who use the EDL daily will have to pay RM15.30 in toll at the booth at the CIQ complex.

Toll will also be imposed also on motorists who enter the CIQ, even though they do not use the EDL, raising complaints from road users in Johor.

Last week, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak announced that motorists who do not use the EDL do not have to pay toll, adding however, that wavier would be finalised in two weeks.

Er, who again raised the matter in the House today, argued that the highway deal should be made public as EDL's toll cost is set to increase every three years.

However, Pandikar Amin shot down his request, saying that a motion rejected in chambers cannot be raised in the House again.

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