

S'gor girds for water takeover despite stand-off
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The Selangor government is engaging foreign experts as it prepares to take over the water industry, despite the ongoing battle with the federal government on the issue.

In a statement today, Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim said that the government has already approached international industry experts to ensure efficiency in the post-take over period.

NONE"The stand-off on the negotiation for the state to take over the water services industry from the concessionaires - as demanded in the Water Services Act 2006 - should not stop the state from making the relevant preparations," Khalid (left) said.

He had yesterday met with French-based Suez Environment and UK's Wessex Water, with both, he said expressing readiness to share their expertise with Selangor to ensure competitive end user tariffs.

At the meetings in Marseilles and London, the MB had among others explained the legal and structural issues facing the state in the two-year tussle with the federal government over water services.

Khalid had on Wednesday presented a paper at the 6th World Water Forum in Marseilles, describing the "failure" of privatisation of the water industry in Malaysia.

He will speak on the matter again at a meeting with Malaysian students in London tonight.

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