

PKR questions Selangor MB Langat 2 U-turn

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PKR's Sri Andalas state assemblyperson Xavier Jayakumar has questioned Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim's concession to the federal government on the construction of the Langat 2 water treatment plant.

"The people of Selangor were shocked when the Selangor menteri besar made a 'u-turn' to approve the Langat 2 plant last Wednesday," he said in a statement today.

The state government said the decision was the result of the federal government invoking Section 114 of the Water Services Industry Act 2006 to take over the state's water infrastructure but Xavier dismissed the justification.

He said the law only applies to licence holders of water supply operations, not the state government.

"Many do not know that the state government owns 33 of 39 water treatment plants and eight dams throughout Selangor.

Clearly the state government is the owner of the water assets and not the licence holders and is not subject to the section," Xavier (right in photo), said.

As such, Xavier said it was confusing why it would bow to the federal government and approve the project.

He added that once the project is completed, Selangor will be importing water from Sungai Semantan in Pahang despite the already sufficient supply within the state.

"The rakyat need to be aware that when Langat 2 is ready, the state government will need to pay RM80 million a year in royalty to the Pahang government for using Sungai Semantan for fresh water which can be raised every five years," he said.

Xavier asked if the Pakatan government can ensure that water tariffs will not go up once the water treatment plant is in operation.

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