

Puas Workers Union Protests Selangor Government's Proposed Takeover Of Syabas
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SHAH ALAM, July 25 (Bernama) -- The Workers Union of Perbadanan Urus Air Selangor Berhad, including those from Bekalan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd (Syabas) handed over a memorandum of protest to Selangor menteri besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim on the state government's proposed management takeover of the water company.

Union president Abd Aziz Ali handed over the memorandum to the Selangor Menteri Besar's press officer, Tuan Nazuri Tuan Ismail at the state secretary building here at 1 pm today, after 170 union members held an hour-long peaceful demonstration outside the premises.

Abd Aziz said the memorandum was intended to express the union's disappointment with Abdul Khalid's statement which portrayed Syabas workers as incompetent to supply treated water to Selangor, and the Federal Territories of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.

"We unanimously need Syabas to carry on distributing treated water in this state. We are concerned that any takeover would not be comparable to Syabas and as to whether the welfare of its 3,000 workers would be assured," he told reporters here today.

Adding that the state government's stance was baseless, he said Syabas' concern was the shortage of treated water in Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya, Gombak and Klang but the state government was raising the issue of raw water.

The state government should be focusing on the water crisis in the state rather than politicising the matter, he added.

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