

PRESS STATEMENT

7 MAY 2026

Sarawak Metro apologises for inconvenience caused by water supply disruption

KUCHING: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd regrets the inconvenience caused by the recent water supply disruption to residents around the Jalan Wan Alwi area here, recently.

The disruption was caused by an accidental damage to a water pipe during construction works for the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) Project's Blue Line Package 2, on Wednesday.

Sarawak Metro takes the matter very seriously and upon being notified of the incident immediately worked closely with the Blue Line Package 2 contractor – the joint venture company of Perbena Emas Sdn Bhd and CRBC (M) Holdings Sdn Bhd – and Sarawak Water Sdn Bhd to facilitate repair works to restore water supply to the area as swiftly as possible.

As construction activities continue to intensify, particularly within the city and residential area, such challenges remain a possibility due to the complexity of works being carried out around existing underground utilities and infrastructure.

At the Jalan Wan Alwi area, the ongoing construction involves the development of piers for the elevated guideway, as well as a long-span structure crossing the major traffic intersection, which will become one of the significant features of the KUTS Project.

Trial pit works and utilities relocation activities are a necessary part of the construction process.

The utilities relocation works in the area are expected to complete in the next three months, subject to site conditions, utilities coordination, traffic management requirements and approval from the relevant authorities.

Moving forward, as the KUTS Project progresses into a more active phase of construction, Sarawak Metro remains committed to minimising disruptions to public utility services and surrounding communities.

Sarawak Metro continuously reviews and strengthens its operational procedures to further improve coordination among contractors, enhance on-site supervision, and reduce the risk of similar incidents recurring in the future.

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This includes ongoing engagement, comprehensive utility mapping and close coordination with utility providers and their respective contractors, particularly prior to excavation works near identified underground pipes and cables.

Other measures taken include continuous site inspection and risk assessment as well as preparing the emergency response and rectification readiness for swift mitigating procedures.

Sarawak Metro greatly appreciates the cooperation and support extended by the relevant government agencies and utility providers in ensuring the KUTS Project is implemented as smoothly and safely as possible.

Sarawak Metro is also grateful for the patience, understanding and continued support from the public as efforts continue towards developing a modern and sustainable public transport system for Greater Kuching.

Ends

About Sarawak Metro and KUTS project:

Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro), a State-owned enterprise, has been entrusted by the Sarawak Government to modernise public transport through the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) project.

Sarawak Metro is the implementer, operator and maintainer of the KUTS project.

The project is being developed in phases, and Phase 1 includes the development of three lines: the Blue Line from Rembus in Kota Samarahan to Hikmah Exchange in the city centre; the Red Line, from Kuching Sentral to Pending; and the Green Line, from Pending to Damai.

The backbone of the KUTS project is the introduction of the zero-emission Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) hydrogen vehicles.

The ART vehicles will be operated on dedicated lanes, meaning they will not share the lane with other road users. The ART hydrogen vehicles will run on rubber tires, and hence the dedicated lanes will be trackless. The lanes will mostly be at-grade (road level) while certain sections of the alignment will be elevated.

The ART operation will be supported by a network of feeder buses, which will also consist of hydrogen-powered vehicles to offer the 'first mile and last mile' connectivity for commuters.

The move to use hydrogen is in line with the Sarawak Government's aspirations to advance the hydrogen economy and to decarbonise public transport in Sarawak.

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