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UPPSB TAKES POSSESSION OF SITE FOR ULU PADAS WATER SUPPLY SCHEME; CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

Lok Kawi, Sabah, 12 May 2026

Upper Padas Power Sdn Bhd (UPPSB) has formally assumed control of the development grounds for the Ulu Padas Water Supply Scheme (SBAUP) following the site handover from Tuan Chee Chun Chieh (Director of Sabah State Water Department) to Datuk Ir. Ts. Adzmir Abd Rahman (Chairman of UPPSB). The transition ceremony, conducted earlier today in Lok Kawi, signifies the official start of the project construction.

The ceremony was witnessed by Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Joachim Gunsalam (Deputy Chief Minister 1 and Minister of Works and Utilities, Sabah), Datuk Ridhwan Roger Linus (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Utilities, Sabah) and Datuk Annuar Ayub (Chairman of Sabah Energy Corporation), marking a significant milestone in the state's pursuit of long-term water security under the Sabah Maju Jaya roadmap.

The SBAUP project is designed to meet the growing demand for treated water in Sabah's west coast corridor, including Kota Kinabalu, Beaufort, Sipitang, and Kuala Penyu. With an ultimate design capacity of 950 million litres per day (MLD), the scheme leverages a "bolt-on" design with the existing Ulu Padas Hydroelectric Project, optimising resources and minimising environmental impact.

This site handover ceremony marks the start of a 42-month journey to secure Sabah's water future, designed to bridge the gap between urban and rural needs. Phase 1 of the SBAUP is scheduled for completion by end 2029, delivering a 350 MLD water treatment plant in Beaufort and over 200km of pipelines spanning Sipitang to Kota Kinabalu, to provide immediate relief and stability to the state's water grid.

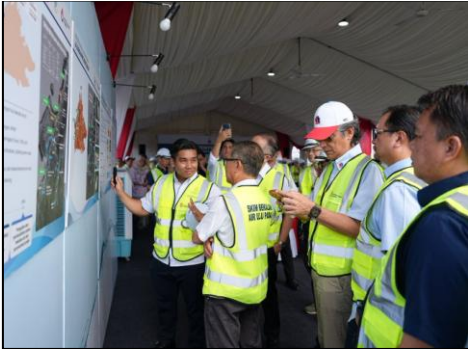
Proposed images

Image 1



Caption: Tuan Chee Chun Chieh (Director of Sabah State Water Department), Datuk Ir. Ts. Adzmir Abd Rahman (Chairman of Upper Padas Power Sdn Bhd and Group Chief Executive Officer of Sabah Energy Corporation), Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Joachim Gunsalam (Deputy Chief Minister 1 and Minister of Works and Utilities, Sabah) and Datuk Annuar Ayub (Chairman of Sabah Energy Corporation) with the rest of the honoured dignitaries graced the site handover ceremony for the Ulu Padas Water Supply Scheme (SBAUP).

Image 2



Caption: Muhamad Elias bin Johari (Chief Executive Officer of Upper Padas Power Sdn Bhd), led a project technical briefing on the engineering milestones of SBAUP to Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Joachim Gunsalam (Deputy Chief Minister 1 and Minister of Works and Utilities, Sabah).

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About Upper Padas Power Sdn Bhd

Upper Padas Power Sdn Bhd (UPPSB) is the project developer for the Ulu Padas Hydroelectric Project (UPHEP). It is a wholly owned subsidiary of UPH Holdings Sdn Bhd, a strategic joint venture between Gamuda Berhad (45%), Sabah Energy Corporation Sdn Bhd (40%) and Kerjaya Kagum Hitech JV Sdn Bhd (15%).

Tasked with the development, design and construction of the project, UPPSB is committed to delivering sustainable and reliable energy infrastructure for Sabah.

Upon its scheduled completion by 31 December 2030, the project will generate an average of 1,052GWh of clean hydropower per annum, increasing the state's dependable capacity by approximately 15% and doubling its renewable energy mix. This project is a critical catalyst for Sabah's goal of achieving a 35% renewable energy share by 2035, while simultaneously invigorating the western coastal corridor and sparking long-term socio-economic growth across the region.

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