

Headline	Ministry making effort to improve power supply in Tawau - Ongkili		
MediaTitle	Borneo Post (KK)		
Date	20 May 2017	Color	Black/white
Section	Home	Circulation	89,224
Page No	4	Readership	267,672
Language	English	ArticleSize	171 cm <sup>2</sup>
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 477
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 1,430



# Ministry making effort to improve power supply in Tawau – Ongkili

**TAWAU:** Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Maximus Johnity Ongkili said that electricity supply was a great challenge in Tawau that his ministry was making an effort to improve.

He said he had no control over the operation of Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) except in licensing power under the relevant laws and regulations.

“I have no authority to interfere with SESB operation,” he said, adding that the state government holds a 20 per cent stake in SESB while 80 per cent belongs to the Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB).

“It is the same with the water supply in Sabah that is still under the control of the state government while he has power to control

the water supply in Malaya and the Federal Territory of Labuan only,” he said.

In fact, he said, the water dam project at Gudang Empat here had been approved and signed.

“The project costs about RM450 million,” Ongkili told reporters during the Tawau Chinese Community Social Gathering Dinner at a restaurant here on Thursday.

Also present were Datuk Dr Yee Moh Chai, chairman of the Sustainable Energy Development Authority Malaysia (SEDA Malaysia), the event planner Dr Wong Jia Lih and organizing chairman Larry Koh.

On the System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) report, he said the highest interruption by April 30, 2017 was

in Pitas at 15.51 interruption/customer, followed by Kuala Penyu at 11.59 interruption/customer and Ranau at 9.71 interruption/customer.

The lowest average interruption areas were Papar, followed by Kunak and Kota Kinabalu.

On the geothermal in Apas Kiri here, Ongkili disclosed that it was a private sector project and had nothing to do with the government.

He hoped this project could be successfully completed by 2019, as it had been extended.

Ongkili said this geothermal project would be the first in Malaysia and the seventh in the world.

He hoped the private sector could commit to make it successful.