

Headline	Energy efficiency is the better option		
MediaTitle	The Star		
Date	08 Nov 2013	Color	Black/white
Section	Letters	Circulation	304,904
Page No	53	Readership	1,026,812
Language	English	ArticleSize	136 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 3,013
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 9,039



Energy efficiency is the better option

IT is heartening to read that the Sustainability Achieved Via Energy Efficiency (Save) programme has saved RM46.1mil in energy bills.

This is most encouraging and the savings are derived merely by using energy efficient equipment and light bulbs.

It is time the Energy, Green Technology and Water Ministry earnestly push for the Energy Efficient and Conservation Laws to be approved and implemented to further improve the Save programme.

To encourage energy efficiency is more realistic and effective rather than pushing for Renewable Energy (RE).

Encouraging the public to participate in energy efficiency is more tangible and widespread and these low-lying fruits will achieve significant and rapid results with-

out relying fully on government-subsidy.

The current emphasis on RE installations should be curtailed.

We are paying dearly with the 1% levy on our electricity bills to fund the RE drive merely to subsidise a limited number of recipients to install non-commercially viable projects is not sensible nor sustainable.

Despite the huge subsidies required, the installations will be obsolete way before the pay-back period.

Technology is fast changing and efficiency of renewable energy equipment is improving rapidly.

The present subsidy scheme is encouraging the installations of today's low-efficient technology which will be overtaken soon with new products coming out of intensive research and development

which will be much more efficient and cheaper too!

Prices of solar cells are dropping fast due to over-capacity and the withdrawals of subsidies by many developed countries especially in Europe.

The move to increase by 100% of the levy on our electricity bills from the current 1% to 2% is not logical and would be most wasteful to fund non-commercially viable RE projects to be enjoyed by a lucky few.

It is more beneficial for the ministry to concentrate on pushing for energy efficiency and conservation by not withholding further the tabling of the Energy Efficient and Conservation Act to become law as soon as possible.

TK CHANG
Petaling Jaya