

Pollutant detector for Sungai Selangor ✓

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HULU SELANGOR: Pollution in Sungai Selangor will soon trigger alarms within minutes.

A device that detects pollution will send an immediate alert to the Department of Environment (DOE) if effluent of any type seeps into the river.

DOE director-general Datuk Rosnani Ibarahim said the alert would allow immediate action to clean up the river.

"We have asked the company in charge of the Bukit Tagar landfill, KUB-Berjaya Enviro Sdn Bhd (KBE), to install the equipment downstream Sungai Selangor as soon as possible, which they have agreed to do," she said.

Rosnani said the DOE would also set up its own monitoring system.

The monitoring will be done at three levels — one by KBE, one by the DOE and the final stage by the party using the water.

Rosnani was speaking to journalists on a site visit to the Bukit Tagar landfill and leachate treatment plant yesterday.

Meanwhile, Deputy Environment and Natural Resources Minister Datuk S. Sothinathan said he was satisfied with the plant's operations.

"If the system works according to plan, there should be no more seepage," he said.

On Feb 26, residents in the area complained that their tap water smelled foul.

A public outcry led to further investigations.

Replying a question in Parliament after the incident, Sothinathan revealed that the smell had come from leachate that had seeped from the Bukit



Sothinathan looking at a bottle containing leachate (right) and processed water (left) from the Bukit Tagar landfill yesterday.

Tagar landfill.

Sungai Selangor had been affected because the landfill had not been equipped with a leachate

treatment plant.

When asked yesterday about the issue, Sothinathan said the case was still being investigated.

"Our report is still with the Attorney-General's Chambers.

"The decision doesn't lie with me," he said.