



Local | World | Business | Sports | Lifestyle | Columns | Letters | Media & Marketing | Fashion & Beauty | Photos | Community

Are we paying twice for sewerage maintenance?

Posted on 28 March 2012 - 08:04pm

AZMAN Ujang in "Off the Cuff" (March 27) bemoans the unwillingness of house owners to pay Indah Water Konsortium sewerage bills. Unlike water and electricity, IWK services cannot easily be cut off at the point of the individual household to induce payment, he says.

It is suggested that the sewerage bill be tied to the water bill. Here's another suggestion: include the IWK bill in house assessment tax. Should this course of action be taken, the interesting thing is that it wouldn't be new.

The cost of sewerage maintenance used to be borne by local authorities through assessment tax, before the decision was taken to contract the job out to IWK in 1994.

House owners would not object if a local authority deemed it more expedient to contract work out, rather than have its own employees perform the job. For example, if roadside grass cutting normally undertaken by the local authority were contracted out, house owners would see no reason to grumble as long as the job got done.

But they would raise a hue and cry if the contractor were to send them a bill for grass cutting. Shouldn't the contractor's bill be paid off the savings from the local authority not having to spend on equipment and salaries for their own workers? Why should house owners pay twice for grass cutting?

This was the situation when IWK took over the task to maintain the nation's sewerage. House owners received no rebate in assessment tax even though local authorities had been relieved of the task. Shouldn't IWK have received from the local authorities the portion of the assessment tax formerly allocated to this expenditure?

House owners, as a whole, do agree that IWK is doing a decent job in sewerage maintenance and that they should be paid for it. But where many are concerned, they already have. It has been in their assessment tax all this while.

YY

Kuala Lumpur

Like

10 likes. [Sign Up](#) to see what your friends like.

Share this news:

Today's Most Viewed

- **Snooze interrupted: Danger of sleep apnea**
- **MAS, AirAsia share swap not a win-win deal**
- **Karl Lagerfeld: Junk food makes Japanese beautiful**
- **Samsung gets creative with Yuna**
- **AmBank appoints Ashok Ramamurthy as group MD**



Download FREE E-paper





Monthly archive

- [April 2012](#)
- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)
- [December 2011](#)
- [November 2011](#)
- [October 2011](#)
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)

Kuala Lumpur



- Broken clouds
- Temperature: 29 °C
- Wind: Calm

Reported on: Mon, 02/04/2012 - 8:00pm

[Local](#) [World](#) [Business](#) [Sports](#) [Lifestyle](#) [Columns](#) [Letters](#) [Media & Marketing](#) [Fashion & Beauty](#) [Photos](#) [Community](#)

[Home](#) [Contact Us](#) [Follow Us](#) [RSS](#) [Advertise with Us](#)

Copyright © 2012 Sun Media Corporation Sdn. Bhd. All rights reserved.