



01 OCT, 2026

EC, SE uncover RM80,000 electricity theft in Labuan



Borneo Post (KK), Malaysia

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LABUAN: The Energy Commission (EC) in collaboration with Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SE) on Wednesday uncovered suspected electricity theft involving three premises, resulting in estimated losses of RM80,000 to the utility provider.

EC director of Compliance and Enforcement Ismail Zaili said the integrated operation, dubbed 'Ops Spark 2026' found the first premises believed to have been involved in electricity theft for about two years, while the second and third premises were believed to have been involved for about three years.

"The premises were suspected of tampering with electricity meters or electrical equipment, resulting in losses to the utility provider," he said at a press after the operation in downtown on Wednesday.

He said electricity theft could affect the reliability of electricity supply, cause supply disruptions and pose safety risks to the public.

"The cases will be investigated under Section 37(3) of the Electricity Supply Act 1990 (Act 447)," he said adding that if convicted, offenders involving domestic premises face a fine of between RM1,000 and RM50,000, or imprisonment for up to one year, or both for a first offence.

For a second or subsequent offence, they face a fine of between RM5,000 and RM100,000, or imprisonment for up to three years, or both.

For non-domestic premises, a first offence carries a fine of between RM20,000 and RM1 million, or imprisonment for up to five years, or both, while a second or subsequent offence carries a fine of between RM100,000 and RM5 million, or imprisonment for up to 10 years, or both.

Ismail also reminded the public not to interfere with electricity meters or equipment belonging to the utility provider and to report any irregularities involving meters or illegal connections to EC or SE. — Bernama