



08 APR, 2024

SESB should sue State Water Department — Lawyer

Borneo Post (KK), Malaysia



Page 1 of 2

SESB should sue State Water Department — Lawyer

KOTA KINABALU: Lawyer Chin Tek Ming of Parti Warisan on Sunday criticized Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) and the State Water Department for negligence, resulting in a fire at a cable warehouse in Inanam.

The fire destroyed cables worth around RM40 million.

In his statement, Chin pointed out that this fire not only caused significant economic losses but could also impact the state's power supply, causing inconvenience to the people.

He questioned why SESB and the State Water Department did not take necessary preventive measures to avoid such a fire.

"According to reports, when the fire broke out, firefighters initially used water from fire hydrants, but the supply only lasted for 40 minutes before running dry, forcing them to pump water from the Menggalat



Chin Tek Ming

River which is 1.2 kilometers away," Chin said.

He said this indicates serious negligence in fire safety by SESB and the State Water Department.

He demanded a thorough investigation by SESB whose chairman is Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau, into the cause of the fire and why necessary preventive measures were not taken. He also demanded that the investigation outcome be

made public as tax-payers have the right to know.

Chin suggested that SESB should sue the State Water Department and seek compensation because the lack of water hindered firefighting efforts, resulting in substantial asset losses.

Furthermore, he requested an explanation from the State Minister of Works, Datuk Shahelmey Yahya, who previously claimed that water supply issues in the state had not reached a critical stage. Chin further questioned why firefighters faced a water shortage during this incident if the minister is not wrong.

"The state government must take this fire incident seriously and implement necessary measures to prevent similar tragedies from happening again," Chin concluded.