



11 APR, 2026

Time of Use scheme cuts bills

New Sarawak Tribune, Malaysia



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PUTRAJAYA: The government is encouraging Malaysians to switch to the Time of Use (ToU) scheme to cut electricity bills and boost national energy efficiency amid volatile global energy prices.

In a statement yesterday, the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA) said 128,868 consumers had already switched to the ToU scheme as of February, a clear sign of growing public awareness of smarter energy management.

The ministry said the scheme offered lower rates during off-peak hours and higher rates during peak hours. This gives them a real incentive to change daily usage habits and save money.

Under the scheme, peak hours are weekdays from 2 pm to 10 pm, when demand and rates are high. Off-peak hours include overnight to early morning, weekends and public holidays, when rates are lower.

PETRA advised users to shift energy-intensive activities, such as running air conditioners, operating washing machines, using water heaters and charging electric vehicles, to off-peak hours to maximise savings.

“This approach not only lowers electricity bills but also supports more efficient, sustainable energy use,” the statement read.

The government sees the ToU scheme as a key initiative to help Malaysians control electricity costs, reduce peak-hour demand, and use energy more wisely.

PETRA said it would accelerate the scheme’s expansion in line with the Malaysia MADANI vision of public well-being, resource sustainability and efficient governance.

“Using energy wisely cuts the cost of living, protects the environment and ensures more balanced national development for future generations,” the statement concluded. – BERNAMA