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## RM4b targeted power subsidy savings

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The government is able to save RM4.1 billion through the implementation of a targeted electricity subsidy for half a year, the Senate was told yesterday.

Deputy Finance Minister Steven Sim said the actual cost of the subsidy to maintain the current electricity tariff, if fully implemented, would reach RM14.9 billion, but with the targeted subsidy the total cost would only be RM10.8 billion.

He said through targeted implementation, part of the Imbalance Cost Pass-Through would be released to medium and high-voltage users among industry players, including multinational companies (MNC), with a surcharge of 20 sen/kWh.

"This implementation only involves the highest 1% of electricity users, most of whom are MNC," he said during the oral question and answer session at the Senate yesterday.

Sim said this in response to a question from Senator Tan Sri Mohamad Fatmi Che Salleh who wanted to know the latest subsidy distribution mechanism being implemented to make it more targeted and avoid leakage.

- Bernama