



22 JUN, 2025

Explain hidden power tariff hike: Wong

Daily Express (KK), Malaysia



# Explain hidden power tariff hike: Wong

KOTA KINABALU: Warisan Kota Kinabalu Division Information Chief Samuel Wong called (pic) on the GRS-PH government to explain the “silent restructuring” of Sabah’s electricity tariffs, which led to higher household bills over recent years through an increasingly complex tiered rate system.



Wong claimed this follows the State Government’s announcement that no electricity surcharge will be imposed from July to December 2025 under the ICPT (Imbalance Cost Pass-Through) mechanism.

“While the announcement may appear positive, the real issue lies in years of hidden cost increases embedded in the tiered billing structure.

“The Government says there is no surcharge, but our bills tell a different story. What Sabahans are facing is a hidden tariff hike, not through official announcements, but via subtle

changes to how electricity usage is charged,” he said in a statement.

Wong highlighted how the number of tiers has increased over time, pushing average households into higher billing brackets without them realising.

In 2022, Sabah electricity bills used 5 tiers:

- 100 units at RMo.175
- 100 units at RMo.185
- 100 units at RMo.330
- 200 units at RMo.445
- 100 units at RMo.450

By 2025, the structure expanded to 7 tiers:

- 100 units at RMo.175
- 100 units at RMo.185
- 100 units at RMo.330
- 200 units at RMo.445
- 100 units at RMo.450
- 100 units at RMo.450
- 100 units at RMo.470

“This expansion and reshuffling of thresholds means ordinary households are now more likely to hit the highest rate even with moderate usage. It’s a disguised price hike.

“Compare this to peninsular Malaysia, where real reforms will

begin in July 2025. The peninsula will implement monthly electricity tariff reviews based on real-time fuel prices and currency exchange rates.

“It will also scrap the tiered structure entirely and move to a billing system based on energy, capacity, network, and retail charges.

“Peninsular Malaysians are seeing meaningful reform. What about us in Sabah? Is the GRS-PH government even trying to fight for a fair deal for us?” Wong questioned.

He also called for the removal of the eight per cent Sales and Service Tax (SST) on residential electricity usage, calling it a tax on basic needs.

“Electricity is essential. Why are we taxing families who are already overpaying under a broken system?” said Wong.

He concluded by urging Sabah Electricity and the GRS-PH state government to provide full transparency on the current tariff structure and present a clear roadmap for reform.

“Sabahans have paid more than enough. We need answers, we need reform, and we need action now,” he stressed.