

Headline	Give one-off rebate on electricity bill		
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# Give one-off rebate on electricity bill

**FOR** the past few months, the Meteorological Department has been telling us to brace for hot weather, particularly in the afternoons.

Temperatures have soared above 37°C. The El Nino phenomenon, cited as the main reason for the hot and dry weather, was predicted to end last month. But it has not shown signs of ending.

We have been warned that heat can be intolerable and we need to prepare to face extreme conditions.

Thank you to the Health Ministry, which has been reminding people to remain hydrated.

Drinking water is the only way to remain hydrated and it is also helpful to remain indoors. The Education Ministry has been

quick to close schools when it gets too hot.

The lack of rain will cause water shortage. Some states are feeling it and this is expected to spread to other states.

Those living in Selangor and Kuala Lumpur will remember the difficult time we faced during the last water crisis. Therefore, we should use water only when necessary. In other instances, please recycle.

While El Nino is a natural phenomenon, it has taken a toll on household finances because of high electricity bills.

Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) said heavy usage of energy was reflected in the country's electricity con-

sumption, which reached an all-time high peak demand of 17,175MW last month. This broke the record of 16,901MW in June 2014.

The heat has forced the people to switch on air-conditioners for longer periods throughout the day. Some consumers are experiencing an electricity bill surge that run into hundreds of ringgit.

The Malaysia Consumers Movement calls on the government, through TNB, to provide a one-off rebate on electricity bills to help consumers, especially those in low- and middle-income groups.

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