

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

## S.A. 2021/02/42 (HQ)

## NATIONAL COVID-19 IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME: A STABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

**Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB)** calls for public cooperation, including contractors involved in earth digging, to avoid any possibility that can compromise the stability of electricity supply during the National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme.

TNB Head (Operations), Distribution Network Mohd Yusof Ibrahim urges all contractors to play their role in exercising their responsibility before commencing digging work.

Last year, there were 459 cases of cable damage due to third party digging reported, with Selangor recording the highest number of 118 cases affecting 141,000 consumers. Kuala Lumpur recorded 108 cases (94,000 consumers) followed by Pahang with 43 cases (55,000 consumers).

Yusof reiterates his advice to contractors involved in digging works to consult with TNB before commencing their activity to avoid electricity supply disruption.

On the other hand, the public is advised to immediately inform TNB CareLine 15454 or call the police if they encounter any suspicious parties that trespass TNB installations, including substations and transmission tower.

"Tempering or looting any TNB installations can cause electrical arc or spark, leading to electricity supply disruption.

"Playing kites or drone near TNB transmission lines, or carrying poles and fishing at a pool underneath it may also lead to the same risk," he explained, referring to the risk that can cause supply disruption.

This reminder is part of the precautionary measures to ensure the safety of COVID-19 vaccine as Malaysia began receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine from 21 February, followed by the inoculation programme from 26 February.

A stable electricity supply is required as the vaccine has to be stored at -70 degree Celsius. Prior to this, TNB has committed to ensuring electricity supply at Vaccine Storage Centres (VSC) and more than 600 Vaccine Administration Centres (VAC) nationwide remain stable during the implementation of the immunisation programme.



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"The National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme is an important national agenda to combat the virus which has affected various aspects of our lives for almost a year," he said.

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TNB technical team carrying out temporary shutdown work for maintenance and installation of a remote automation supply system, Remote Terminal Unit (RTU) at a hospital in Selangor on 20 February 2021.