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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**13 NOVEMBER 2024**

### **ECoS Initiates Prosecution Process for Electricity Theft in Sabah**

**KOTA KINABALU**, 13 November - The Energy Commission of Sabah (ECoS) has initiated court proceedings against individuals and companies accused of tampering with electric meters, causing losses to Sabah Electricity (SE) amounting to more than RM3 million.

"Raids conducted by ECoS and SE since May 2024 have found strong evidence of meter tampering that caused the meters to fail to record the actual electricity usage. Preliminary information related to meter tampering activities was obtained from suspiciously low billing records," said ECoS Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Ir. Abdul Nasser Abdul Wahid.

He also informed that apart from the criminal prosecutions in court by ECoS, SE has also initiated civil lawsuits to claim losses starting early 2025.

Five cases have been filed in the Sessions Court in Sandakan, Sabah under Section 61(3) of the Electricity Supply Enactment 2024, which can result in a fine of not less than RM20,000 and not more than RM1 million or imprisonment for up to five years, or both, if convicted.

"After this, ECoS will continue with the prosecution of nine more cases of electricity theft. All electricity theft activities must be dealt with firmly according to the law to protect public interest and maintain the reliability of the electricity service," said Nasser.

In separate prosecution sessions held on November 10 and 11 at the Sandakan Sessions Court, individuals Wong Kin Hong, Chang Wan Yee, Wan Kok Hsiung, and companies Phoenix Series (S) Sdn Bhd and Sama Marketing Sdn Bhd, pleaded guilty and were imposed a fine of RM20,000, with a six-month imprisonment if the fine is not paid.

"The prosecutions carried out by ECoS are necessary to combat the increasingly rampant electricity theft activities in Sabah and to help SE from suffering more severe revenue losses if not curbed. ECoS will not compromise with any party that violates the laws provided under the Electricity Supply Enactment 2024," said Nasser.

[end]

#### **About ECoS**

*The Energy Commission of Sabah (ECoS) is a statutory body established by the State Government of Sabah since 10th January 2023. It operates as the regulator for the energy sector within the Chief Minister's portfolio. The primary objectives of ECoS are to ensure secure, sustainable, affordable, and accessible energy for the State of Sabah. ECoS plays a pivotal role in shaping Sabah's energy landscape, promoting responsible energy practices, and safeguarding the interests of both consumers and the environment.*