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## No change in power tariff for domestic use

The Sun, Malaysia

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**PUTRAJAYA:** The electricity tariff for domestic consumers will be maintained while the surcharge for non-domestic consumers will be reduced effective Jan 1 until June 30 next year, according to the Energy Commission (ST).

Through a government-approved decision, 7.4 million domestic consumers will be exempted from paying surcharges, while non-domestic consumers will get to enjoy a surcharge reduction, which is a reduction of effective electricity tariff rates in their electricity bills.

The ST said RM376.45 million was to be released to consumers in Peninsular Malaysia through the "imbalance cost pass through" (ICPT) surcharge from Jan 1 to June 30, 2020.

"RM62.95 million is to be released to the domestic consumer category while RM313.5 million is to be released to commercial and industrial users," it said in a statement yesterday.

For domestic consumers, RM62.95 million from Kumpulan Wang Industri Elektrik will be used to cover the ICPT surcharge.

With this, domestic consumers will not be faced with any increase in electricity tariffs for 18 months.

For the commercial and

industrial users category, a surcharge of 2.55 sen per kWh was imposed from July to December this year.

"Given the reduction in fuel costs over the last six months, the commercial and industrial consumer surcharge rates will be reduced by 0.55 sen/kWh from 2.55 sen/kWh to two sen/kWh," the statement said.

According to the ST, although there was a decline in actual coal costs from July to December 2019, the actual average coal prices are still above the benchmark fuel prices set in the base tariff for the Regulatory Period 2 of the incentive-based regulations mechanism from 2018 to 2020.

"The price increase is beyond the control of the government as it is based on global market prices.

"In addition, higher electricity demand has also contributed to the rising cost of fuel and related costs for the July to December 2019 period," it said. - Bernama



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### SUMMARIES

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