

Headline	Tariffs not affected over 1MDB takeover of IPPs - Ongkili		
MediaTitle	New Sabah Times English (KK)		
Date	17 Nov 2017	Color	Full Color
Section	Home	Circulation	17,182
Page No	4	Readership	51,546
Language	English	ArticleSize	125 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 673
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 2,019



Tariffs not affected over 1MDB takeover of IPPs – Ongkili

KOTA KINABALU: Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili said yesterday the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) takeover of three independent power producers (IPPs) five years ago did not raise power tariffs in the country.

In fact, he said, the acquisition resulted in the government saving millions of ringgit in costs.

Responding to Petaling Jaya Utara MP Tony Pua's statement recently that the minister's explanation on the matter in Parliament was ridiculous, Ongkili said the DAP national publicity secretary seemed insistent on

making evil accusations against the government.

"I distributed the Hansard transcript of my winding-up speech for my ministry in Parliament to the media two days ago in response to the Petaling Jaya Utara MP's statement when debating Budget 2018 in the Dewan Rakyat.

"I had said the acquisition actually helped in reducing the electricity tariff and I also explained that the IPPs were involved in revising the tariffs to be reduced five years ago before I took over the ministry," he said.

Ongkili was asked by reporters after a Parti Bersatu

Sabah luncheon with the media here Thursday to comment on Pua's statement following the minister's winding-up speech, claiming Ongkili confirmed that 1MDB had no role in reducing electricity tariffs or costs.

1MDB acquired Powertek Energy Sdn Bhd (formerly Tanjong Energy Holdings Sdn Bhd), Kuala Langat Power Plant (formerly Genting Sanyen) and Jimah Power in 2012.

Ongkili also stressed that the government would only negotiate with IPPs to reduce tariffs every time there was a revision on the matter. —Bernama