

on 07 October 2013

The logo for the New Straits Times newspaper, featuring the word "NEW" in a small font above the word "STRAITS" in a larger font, with "TIMES" in a similar font to the right. The entire logo is in red.

## Study on environs impact

SAMARAHAN: Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) is embarking on a Hydropower Environmental Sustainability Programme to address concerns over such projects in the state.

SEB has signed an agreement with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) to enter a research collaboration on hydropower development environmental sustainability.

SEB corporate services chief Aisah Eden said the company was committed in following internationally-accredited sustainability principles.

These, she said, covered the economic, technical, social and environmental aspects of such projects.

"By doing this, it enables us to effectively identify pertinent environmental issues that warrant close attention."

She said this after the signing ceremony at Unimas here yesterday.

SEB was represented by Aisah and its research and development general manager, Dr Chen Shiun, while Unimas was represented by Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Kadim Suaidi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor for research and innovation Prof Peter Songan and Resource, Science and Technology Faculty Dean, Associate Prof Dr Mohd Hasnain Md Hussain.

Present to witness the signing was Unimas board of directors chairman Datuk Dr Hatta Solhi.

The three-year baseline study will look into two aspects of environmental sustainability, particularly "Aquatic Ecology and Biodiversity" and "Terrestrial Ecology and Biodiversity".

The scope of study for "Aquatic Ecology and Biodiversity" covers analyses on fish species, organisms dependent on each other to survive and their natural habitat, among others.

The study of "Terrestrial Ecology and Biodiversity" focuses on identifying the abundance and distribution of birds, bats, reptiles, amphibians and land animals.

These studies will allow SEB to analyse the natural conditions of an area prior to project development.

The data collected will be used to track the changes, providing better information on their effect on the environment.

Source: News Strait Times