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## Earth Hour, Saturday Supported By Corporations And Premises

KUALA LUMPUR, March 26 (Bernama) -- Several landmarks including skyscrapers, hotels and shopping malls have pledged their support for the Earth Hour 2010 campaign by switching off their lights for an hour tomorrow.

They will stand in solidarity with the world and speak with one voice to turn off their lights for one hour beginning 8.30pm in support of the World Wide Fund (WWF) initiative.

National oil corporation Petronas joins the participating list and will be switching off non-essential lights at its facilities including the Petronas Twin Towers, Suria KLCC mall, petrol stations and its other premises around the world.

Petronas in a statement on Friday said a mini exhibition by WWF had been set up at its Petrosains centre aimed at educating the public on the objectives of the effort to garner their support for Earth Hour.

Joining the bandwagon is Malaysia's busiest and largest transportation hub, KL Sentral, with its non-essential lighting to be also turned off for an hour.

"This small contribution from MRCB would hopefully help bring greater awareness to Malaysians, especially those transiting, working and residing in the KL Sentral area, on the need for us to play a part, no matter how little, in addressing the climate change issue," said Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd's (MRCB) chief executive officer Mohamed Razeek Hussain.

MRCB, the developer of KL Sentral, had already taken the stand by pro-actively adopting international green building certification standards for its new development in KL Sentral, namely Nu Sentral, KL Sentral Park and 348 Sentral.

The public and environmental conservation advocates can also head to the Planetarium as the Agensi Angkasa Negara (Angkasa) is holding a 'Light Pollution Campaign' tomorrow from 7.30pm.

The campaign is to give exposure on the effects of light-polluted problems as it brings disruption to the astronomer.

Hotels also are supporting the campaign by organising relevant activities.

Grand Dorsett Subang Hotel, for example, is offering customers an authentic special dinner set made from organics apart from holding an exhibition of items made from recycled waste.

The Federal Kuala Lumpur in its second participation will be having candlelight dinner.

Shopping mall Sunway Pyramid will be participating in the cause by switching off its exterior facade lighting.

A huge 'Pledge Wall' will also be set up at the shopping mall for the public to pledge their support for Earth Hour.

UCSI University will feature 'The Pledge for Mother Earth', where the audience will release helium balloons into the night sky together with their pledge to perform an act that will lessen any harmful impact on mother earth.

Meanwhile, Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) calls on its customers to use energy prudently and to adopt clean and environment-friendly technology in electricity generation.

Its president and chief executive officer Datuk Seri Che Khalib Mohamad Noh said their 7.6 million customers could do their part in saving the planet by using energy-efficient appliances and practising the habit of using electricity wisely.

He said among the easiest steps customers could start with were by setting the thermostat of the air-conditioning system at between 22 and 26 degrees Celcius and turning off lights and other electrical appliances when not in use.

Earth Hour is an annual event created by WWF where households and businesses are invited to turn off their non-essential lights and electrical appliances for one hour to raise awareness on the climate change issue.

-- BERNAMA