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Saving money on electricity bills

KUALA LUMPUR: Efficient use of electricity as recommended by the Energy Commission can save up to 5% on monthly household electricity bills, said its industry operations director Roslee Esman.

He said the savings could involve a reduction of about RM18 a month, or RM222 a year.

"This means that with proper management on the use of energy, consumers can save as much as 34 kilowatt hours (kWh) a month," he said yesterday, adding that it could be done by using energy at a minimal rate to complete similar tasks or activities.

"Among tips to save energy are not leaving electrical appliances such as televisions and computers on standby mode, and switching off the internet modem when not in use, especially at night.

"Another way is to set the air conditioning temperature at 24°C and ensure that all electrical appliances are clean and free of dust and dirt to avoid excessive energy consumption."

Roslee also recommends the use of energy-efficient appliances that meet requirements of the minimum energy performance standard and affixed with the energy efficiency label (star symbol).

"The more stars the better, as the equipment is more energy efficient. Prices for energy-efficient electrical appliances may be a little more expensive, but they are more economical in the long run.

"The energy efficiency labelling applies to seven electrical appliances, namely refrigerators, air conditioners, televisions, fans, rice cookers, microwave ovens and washing machines," he said, adding that a handbook titled Save Energy, Sustainable Environment for the Future can be downloaded for free from the commission website.

Roslee said in addition to reducing the burden of electricity bills, the efficient and safe use of energy can also promote environmental sustainability by reducing carbon emissions, in line with the government's goal to reduce 45% of carbon dioxide emission by 2030 to address climate change and global warming.

Apart from choosing electrical equipment labelled with the energy efficiency label, consumers are also advised to use electrical appliances with the Sirim-ST logo to ensure that they are safe to use and are able to perform optimally. – Bernama