

editor's page

Commentary on the letter from Dr Mohd Rafick Khan Abd Rahman
published by The Star Metro on 26 November 2012
– “Strengthen slope first”

Although Dr Mohd Rafick Khan Abd Rahman's article on Nov 26, 2012 (“Authorities should certify area is safe before allowing Taman Sri Ukay project” <http://thestar.com.my/metro/story.asp?file=/2012/11/26/central/12299573&sec=central>) doesn't relate to Bukit Gasing, the editors view that Dr Mohd Rafick is able to give Bukit Gasing residents an unbiased view about hill slope development projects which permeate our neighbourhoods of Bukit Gasing, Bukit Pantai, and Bukit Kerinchi.

As Dr Rafick points out, hilly land does slide even when there is no development activity on a particular hill slope. This has been especially true after going through many freaky storms and downpours these past couple of weeks in the Klang Valley.

It is quite impossible for the state to monitor every slope. Therefore, having someone other than the state or local authority to develop or chip in to mitigate precarious slopes might not be a bad idea at all. An important issue is the trustworthiness of the developer and/or contractors that are strengthening the slopes on behalf of the state.

As has been voiced by numerous residents associations, land owners have a right to develop their respective lands. However, existing residents also appreciate knowing that all the rules, regulations and safety requirements set out by the authorities are being adhered to.

The Editor
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