

**INVESTIGATION OF SURFACE WATER ACIDIFICATION
AT SEMENYIH DAM WATER RESOURCE AREA**

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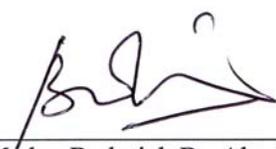
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATION	viii
ABSTRACT	x
ABSTRAK	xi
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Acidification	1
1.2 Background	2
1.3 Surface Water Acidification	3
1.4 Problem Statement	5
1.5 Objective of Study	5
1.6 Significance of Study	5
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Acidification of surface/lake water	7
2.3 Sources of surface water/lake acidification	8
2.4 Effect of surface water and acidification	10
2.5 Major ions in surface water	11
2.6 Acidification parameters	12
2.6.1 pH	12
2.6.2 Water temperature	12
2.6.3 Electrical conductivity	13
2.6.4 Alkalinity	13
2.6.5 Acid Neutralizing Capacity (ANC)	17

CHAPTER 3 MATERIAL AND METHOD		
3.1	Sampling location	19
3.2	Site sampling	19
3.3	<i>In-situ</i> measurement	21
3.4	Measurement	21
	3.4.1 pH value	21
	3.4.2 Water temperature	22
	3.4.3 Electrical Conductivity (EC)	22
	3.4.4 ANC measurement	22
	3.4.5 Alkalinity	22
3.5	Instrument for ion measurement	23
3.6	Equipment for sample collection	24
3.7	Sampling Platform	24
3.8	Sample Collection	24
3.9	Transportation and storage samples	25
3.10	Labeling	25
3.11	Physical and chemical analysis	26
CHAPTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION		
4.1	Parameter measurement	28
	4.1.1 Parameter values of sampling collection	28
	4.1.1.1 pH values for sample collection	29
	4.1.1.2 Temperature values for sample collection	30
	4.1.1.3 Electrical conductivity (EC) values for the sample collection	31
	4.1.1.4 Alkalinity value for the sample collection	32
4.2	Ion measurement	33
	4.2.1 Cations and anions	33
4.3	Sensitivity of the Semenyih Dam	38
CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION		
5.1	Conclusion	40
5.2	Recommendation	41
CITED REFERENCES		42
APPENDICES		44
<i>CURRRICULUM VITAE</i>		68

ABSTRACT

INVESTIGATION OF SURFACE WATER ACIDIFICATION AT SEMENYIH DAM WATER RESOURCES AREA

A study was done to analyze the state of acidification of surface water at Semenyih Dam. This study was conducted for one month on July 2008. The analyzing involves eight sampling locations. Four at entrance points of the following river (Semenyih, Kesuma, Lanjut and Rephen) and four at the middle of the Semenyih Dam. The water samples were analyzed both in-situ and in the lab for the following parameter which are (temperature, electrical conductivity and pH). Measurement for alkalinity was done in the lab. The cations and anions in sample are measured by Ion Chromatograph. From the results, it was found that the average of concentration of ions from sampling are $\text{HCO}_3^- > \text{Na}^+ > \text{Ca}^{2+} > \text{SO}_4^{2-} > \text{K}^+ > \text{Cl}^- > \text{NO}_3^- > \text{Mg}^{2+} > \text{F}^- > \text{NH}_4^+ > \text{Br}^-$. Semenyih Dam also has average pH values which are from 7.51 to 7.64. This average can be classified as neutral and normal for freshwater. Alkalinity readings were from 21.42 mg/L to 134.66mg/L. Alkalinity which is indicates presence of HCO_3^- . HCO_3^- ions act as buffers, which are important because it slow the rate at which the pH changes. It is also was the important component of pH balance in water. Meanwhile, the average temperature values are around 29°C and the value of acid neutralizing capacity (ANC) is high due to the excess amount of base cations compared to amounts of anions. The result also shows that electrical conductivity value is more than $25 \mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The high value of alkalinity and ANC indicate the high buffering capacity of the dam. Therefore, the Semenyih Dam is currently classified as insensitive to acidification due to the value of pH, alkalinity and ANC.