

# Kedah Umno Youth: Carry out referendum

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**ALOR STAR:** Kedah Umno Youth has challenged Menteri Besar Azizan Abdul Razak to carry out a referendum on the proposed logging in the Ulu Muda forest reserve.

Its chief, Md Rawi Abdul Hamid, said he was confident the majority of the people of Kedah would oppose the proposal.

"The people are aware of the consequences of clearing the forest reserve. It is a water catchment area that has long served as a lifeline for millions of people, including padi farmers in Kedah and Perlis.

"Kedah and Perlis need the water for mainly irrigation reasons and Penang for industrial and domestic purposes.

"If the trees are felled, there will be no more water for everyone," he said

when asked to comment on Azizan's intention to proceed with the felling despite the protests.

Md Rawi, who is also Ayer Hangat state assemblyman, said the Pas-led state government was taking the easy way out to generate revenue for the state.

"Kedah Pas is sacrificing the state and its people's future for short-term gains. This is not the way to do things."

He said it was not too long ago that Azizan had taken the opposite stand.

"Now they are in the government, they are telling a different story.

"I challenge the menteri besar to hold a referendum on the matter.

"I know that the majority of the people of Kedah would want to save the Ulu Muda forest reserve."