



Kenya Power

PRESS RELEASE

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Kenya Power signs power purchase agreements for additional capacity

Kenya Power has signed power purchase agreements with four local entities for the uptake of 20.8MW additional power capacity generated from cheaper renewable energy sources.

Signed in 20 year arrangements under feed-in tariff policy that aims at encouraging investments of renewable energy, the power utility will draw the extra capacity from biomass, solar, mini-hydro and wind micro-plants located in Coast, Nairobi, Kajiado and Meru.

Kenya Power Managing Director and CEO, Dr Ben Chumo, said such renewable sources of energy will progressively reduce overreliance of fossil fuel which, in turn, will further reduce the cost of electricity to customers and the economy at large.

“These agreements for a total of 20.82 MW lay the necessary framework for Kenya Power to increase its total installed generation capacity which currently stands at 2,298 MW,” said Dr. Chumo added.

In the agreements, Kwale International Sugar Company in Coast Region will provide 10MW to Kenya Power from its biomass-fired power plant at Ramisi, Kwale County while Ol-Ndanyat Power Limited will provide 10MW from their wind power plant at Kona Baridi in Kajiado County.

In addition, a solar power plant that will be developed by Strathmore University will provide 0.25MW capacity and Mt. Kenya Community Based Organisation will

provide 0.6MW from their mini hydro power generation plant at Ntonani Falls in Meru County.

“The feed-in tariff policy provides competitive power purchase base rates starting from USD 0.11 per kilowatt hour for wind sources; USD 0.1 per kilowatt hour for biomass; USD 0.12 per kilowatt hour for solar and USD 0.0825 per kilowatt hour for mini hydro sources,” he said.

Dr. Chumo highlighted the company’s power generation expansion programme for 5000MW of additional capacity within the next 5 years as envisioned by the government. He said that the additional 5,000MW aims at reducing the cost of power by 40% even as the company continues to accelerate connectivity throughout the country.

“Kenya Power has so far connected over 4 million customers to the national grid and aims to connect an additional 1 million new customers in the current financial year. This is in tandem with the government’s plan to increase population access to electricity to more than 70% by 2017 and universal access by 2020,” he added.

Dr. Chumo mentioned Kenya Power’s commitment to supply clean, reliable and affordable energy which has fostered its partnership with various institutions with the purpose of meeting the growing demand of its customers.

“With the strategies and objectives we have in place, I have no doubt that Kenya Power will continue playing an integral role in driving the socio-economic development of this country as envisaged by Vision 2030 by providing quality, reliable, and cost-effective power and service,” Dr. Chumo said.

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