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KUALA LUMPUR: The Energy Transition Conference 2026 (ETCon26), organised by Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB), will serve as a key platform for discussions on the energy transition agenda, bringing together national leaders, industry experts and stakeholders from around the world from today to Friday.

TNB senior chief strategy, regulatory and sustainability officer Datuk Muhamad Nazri Pazil said the conference will be officiated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, who is also the Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, is scheduled to deliver a keynote address.

Muhamad Nazri said ETCon26 will

bring together policymakers, investors, academics and industry stakeholders from more than 60 countries, with an estimated 4,000 delegates expected to participate in the three-day event.

"In addition, about 80 speakers from various sectors will share their expertise, perspectives and solutions as we explore the best approaches to building a sustainable, clean and efficient energy ecosystem, not only for Malaysia but also for the wider Asean region," he said during Bernama TV's *Ruang Bicara* programme titled "ETCon26 – Mastering the Energy Transition Phase of the Nation and Asean" recently.

Themed "Energy and AI: The Synergy for Energy Transition", the

conference will also serve as a strategic platform to strengthen regional energy cooperation, including efforts to advance the Asean Power Grid (APG) initiative.

Muhamad Nazri said Malaysia's strategic location at the heart of Asean and its stable electricity grid infrastructure position the country to play a leading role in the region's energy transition.

"The APG initiative enables Asean member states to share energy resources across borders. For example, when a country experiences a surge in electricity demand or a temporary supply shortage, neighbouring countries can provide support through cross-border energy sharing." He added that, besides the Laos-

Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project, five additional cross-border energy projects involving Vietnam, Sarawak, Thailand and Singapore are being planned.

Among the highlights will be the launch of Southeast Asia's largest floating solar project, aimed at meeting rising electricity demand, particularly from Malaysia's rapidly expanding data centre industry.

"Currently, 36 data centres have been completed with a combined energy demand of 4.5GW, while another 23 are under construction," Muhamad Nazri said.

Meanwhile, TNB is advancing several major initiatives, including large-scale gas power plant projects and grid modernisation efforts, to

ensure a stable and reliable electricity supply capable of supporting the nation's energy transition goals.

"There are three key priorities. First, to ensure a sufficient and secure energy supply. Second, to strengthen and modernise the grid so it remains stable and reliable while enabling faster integration of new energy sources.

"The third is to ensure that all these initiatives ultimately benefit the people," Muhamad Nazri said.

He added that TNB is also accelerating the development of Malaysia's smart grid ecosystem through the deployment of artificial intelligence technologies and smart meters, with installations expected to reach nine million units by 2027. Bernama