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## Tenaga initiates National Connectivity Plan-linked pilot project

BY WONG EE LIN

KUALA LUMPUR: Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) will start a pilot project this month in Jasin, Melaka, to assess the technical, safety and commercial viability aspects of using its electrical infrastructure for the government's National Connectivity Plan (NCP).

In a statement to Bursa Malaysia yesterday, the state-controlled utility group said the NCP will allow faster, cheaper and wider Internet accessibility.

"TNB chairman Tan Sri Leo Moggie said in the statement: "The pilot project, to be completed by the end of 2018, will cover 1,100 out of 4,300 houses in three areas, namely Taman Merbau, Taman Maju and Felda Kemendor, in Jasin."

Moggie said households will gain access to high-speed broadband that will be made available through TNB's fibre optics, which forms part of the company's existing telecommunication network.

"Telecommunications system has always been an integral part of the utility industry. For TNB, we have been developing our telecommunication network all these years. Through this pilot project, TNB is exploring the potential of utilising the available capacity of TNB's telecommunication assets for the National Connectivity Plan — identified as an important catalyst towards the digital economy without compromising the safety, security and reliability of the electricity supply network," he said.

In separate filing to Bursa Malaysia, TNB said the ex- and payment dates for its proposed interim single-tier dividend of 30.27 sen per share will fall on Sept 26 and Oct 11, 2018 respectively.

The interim dividend is for the financial year ending Dec 31, 2018.