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KUCHING: Solarvest Holdings Berhad is expected to finance the large-scale solar project LSS PETRA 5+ in Perak through a debt-equity ratio of 80:20, which limits the initial cash outflow to about RM50 million, said Maybank Investment Bank (Maybank IB).

Analysts from Maybank IB in a note on Monday said the project will be developed by a consortium of Solarvest (20 per cent) and Malakoff (80 per cent) after it secured a bid under the Energy Commission's LSS PETRA 5+ exercise.

A Letter of Notification has been issued for the consortium to build a 470MWac solar plant in Perak.

The new special purpose vehicle will sign a 21-year solar power purchase agreement with Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB).

Maybank IB said the partnership with Malakoff

marks Solarvest's largest single asset ownership to date.

It estimated Solarvest's equity portion would require a capital expenditure of about RM253 million.

With a mid-teens sen per kWh tariff and commercial operation date targeted by the fourth quarter of 2027, the bank expects Solarvest's 20 per cent stake, equivalent to 94MWac capacity, to generate about RM11 million in annual joint venture income.

It also projected Solarvest to secure at least RM1 billion in engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning (EPCC) value from the consortium project.

This prompted Maybank IB to raise its financial year 2026 (FY26) job replenishment assumption to RM1.8 billion from RM1 billion, while maintaining RM1 billion each for FY2027 and FY2028.

Although there will be no earnings impact in FY2026, Maybank IB raised Solarvest's FY2027 and FY2028 earnings forecasts by 10 per cent and 18 per cent respectively.

This reflects stronger EPCC replenishment and long-term joint venture contributions post-commercial operation date, starting with three months of recurring income in FY2028.

The research house said Solarvest's outlook remains constructive, underpinned by policy support from LSS5+ and corporate power purchase agreements, a stronger job pipeline, and its strategic shift into project ownership alongside regional expansion.

It added that Solarvest is also bidding for 400MW/1,600MWh under the battery energy storage system (BESS) tender, with awards expected in Oct 2025.