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#### REGULATING ELECTRICITY

## TNB, S. Korean firms ink US\$7m VPP agreement

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) and South Korean companies are investing US\$7 million (RM28.63 million) to explore the virtual power plant (VPP) concept to better regulate electricity supply via renewable sources.

TNB Research Sdn Bhd chief strategy officer Dr Mohd Fadzil Mohd Siam said the VPP involves the use of five batteries, each with one-megawatt capacity, in the Klang Valley for three years.

"We are investing US\$2 million while our South Korean partners will come up with US\$5 million,"

he said at the signing of a research collaboration agreement with I-ON Communications Corp, Busan City Gas Co Ltd and Shinwa SnC, here, yesterday.

A VPP is a cloud-based distributed power plant that aggregates energy supply to meet sudden power surge from renewable sources such as solar.

Fadzil said new technologies such as VPP, smart meters and fully-functional smart grid concepts have made inroads into the utility space.

"No one should want to be left behind," he said. **Ooi Tee Ching**



South Korean Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Sung Yun-mo (second from left) with (from left) I-ON Communications Corp chief executive officer (CEO) Jae Cheol, TNB Research Sdn Bhd chief strategy officer Dr Mohd Fadzil Mohd Siam and KH Shinwa SnC CEO Jong Ki Min at the signing of a research collaboration agreement in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY HAFIZ SOHAIMI