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## TNB hooks up with South Korean firms for virtual power plant technology

KUALA LUMPUR: Tenaga Nasional Bhd's (TNB) wholly-owned subsidiary, TNB Research Sdn Bhd, has signed a research collaboration agreement worth US\$7 million (RM28 million) with South Korea's I-On Communications and KH Shinhwa SnC to introduce virtual power plant technology in Malaysia.

TNB Research chief strategy officer Dr Mohd Fadzli Mohd Siam said the investment was part of "Reimagining TNB" initiative towards renewable energy.

"We hope with this collaboration, we can commercialise it after three years," he told reporters after the signing ceremony which was witnessed by the visiting South Korea's Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Yunmo Sung yesterday.

He said the technology uses a battery with the capacity of

generating up to one megawatt of electricity which could also better regulate electricity supply via renewable sources when there is a surge in demand.

"With the power it produces, it can also support the grid when needed and during peak demand," said Mohd Fadzli, adding that they would place batteries in five different locations in Klang Valley for trial purposes within the next three years.

He said the adoption of this new technology will ensure TNB stand on the right track in view of the drastic change in the utility world in the last few years.

"New technologies like virtual power plant, smart meters and fully functioning Smart Grid concept have made large inroads into the utility space and no one should be left behind," he added. — *Bernama*