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KUALA LUMPUR: Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) is in the final stages of forming a consortium to develop the Sarawak-Peninsular Malaysia interconnection, which will enable large-scale transmission of renewable hydroelectric power from Sarawak to Peninsular Malaysia.

The interconnection is a proposed multi-phase project that will link the electricity grids of both regions using subsea cables.

TNB chief grid officer Hasmarizal Hassan said a pre-feasibility study for the 700km project, linking Sampadi near Kuching to Sedenak in Johor, was completed earlier this year.

This would pave the way for the formation of a consortium involving both local and international partners, he said.

"We completed our pre-feasibility study earlier this year, and we are now finalising the potential consortium partners.

"This will be a major undertaking, and we are targeting 51% local equity participation, with up to 49% held by international players," he said during his keynote address titled "From Interconnection to Integration: Building Asean's Renewable-Ready Grid" at the Asean Energy Business Forum 2025 here yesterday.

He noted that non-disclosure agreements with shortlisted companies are in progress, after which the final consortium members will be confirmed by year-end to allow the full feasibility study to begin in January 2026.

Hasmarizal pointed out that the Sarawak interconnection would serve as a key enabler of Malaysia's energy transition, allowing up to 1,000MW of renewable energy to be transmitted to Peninsular Malaysia under the Asean Power Grid framework.

— Bernama