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UAE firm to explore clean energy, says Indonesian govt

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JAKARTA: Emirates Global Aluminium (EGA) plans to explore alternative clean energy development in Indonesia, the government said, amending a statement denied by the company that EGA planned to build a nuclear power plant in the country.

Indonesia's Economic Affairs Ministry issued a statement late on Saturday, replacing one that had said EGA planned to build a nuclear plant of up to five gigawatts in an attempt to remedy a shortage of low-carbon power bedevilling efforts to boost capacity at a smelter in North Sumatra.

An EGA spokesperson said on Thursday that the company "is not in the nuclear power business so, with all respect, the account of this aspect... is inaccurate".

EGA reiterated it was "interested in Indonesia." Indonesia has

no nuclear power capacity.

The company agreed in 2022 to help expand production capacity by up to 400,000 tonnes a year at the smelter owned by state-owned Indonesia Asahan Aluminium.

Senior Economic Minister Airlangga Hartarto and EGA chief executive officer Abdalnasser Ibrahim Saif Kalban met in Dubai on Wednesday to discuss development of the aluminium industry.

Airlangga, in Dubai to attend the World Government Summit, also met Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi, the chief executive of UAE state-owned renewable energy firm Masdar.

The two discussed their projects in Indonesia, including a 145-megawatt floating solar power plant on a reservoir in West Java and development of a gas pipeline from Aceh to East Java. **Reuters**