

Headline	TNB IN P2P ENERGY TRADE?		
MediaTitle	New Straits Times		
Date	18 Nov 2019	Language	English
Circulation	36,278	Readership	108,834
Section	Business Times	Page No	18
ArticleSize	601 cm ²	Journalist	Amir Hisyam Rasid
PR Value	RM 61,914		



More people in Malaysia are expected to install solar panels on their rooftops as they want independence from the main grid and better energy security, according to Singapore-based Electrify.

TRADING PLATFORM

TNB IN P2P ENERGY TRADE?

Utility firm looking at allowing users to sell excess solar power, says Electrify

AMIR HISYAM RASID
KUALA LUMPUR
bt@mediaprima.com.my

TENAGA Nasional Bhd (TNB) is tipped to be behind the force that may disrupt the energy sector and break the traditional power business trend.

It is learnt that the national utility company is advocating a transition from a traditional marketplace where power is commonly supplied by large fossil-fuel plants.

The chief executive officer of Electrify, Singapore-based energy marketplace, said TNB is looking to allow consumers to sell excess energy generated from their solar panels to others, facilitated by a peer-to-peer (P2P) energy trading platform.

This is in line with the market liberalisation in Malaysia and the government's 10-year master plan called the Malaysia Electricity Supply Industry 2.0.

"As the government targets for sustainable and green energy as well as promotes a more liberalised energy market, the industry in Malaysia is about to experience a technology breakthrough with TNB behind it,"

Martin Lim told the *New Straits Times*.

Electrify has been in talks with TNB to bring its P2P trading technology called Synergy, which capitalises on solar energy, into Malaysia.

"We have also been talking to TNB about conducting a pilot test on a P2P energy trading platform.

"If TNB owns the platform that facilitates the trading of solar energy, it would charge a transaction fee. And it does not have to generate the energy, so there is no cost here," said Lim, adding that an announcement on its collaboration with TNB is expected soon.

Following a successful trial in February in Singapore, Synergy is scheduled for a larger scale commercial trial at the end of the year, said Lim.

"About a year-and-a-half ago, we started doing research on P2P energy trading platform. We realised that power grids are evolving drastically.

"With easy access to hardware (solar panel systems), the barrier in Malaysia has become so low that even air-cond contractors can install solar panels for households. It is that simple."

Over the next couple of years, Lim said more people in Malaysia are expected to install solar panels on their rooftops as they want independence from the main grid and better energy security.

"For example in Australia, some people have moved away from the main grids due to high prices and tariffs. Globally, all power grids are moving into that direction. Even in Singapore, we see a lot of demand for solar panels."

Before Synergy, Electrify had set up Electrify.SG, Singapore's first retail electricity marketplace to help residential and commercial customers select the most suitable energy plans

for their needs. Leveraging Electrify's intelligent price comparison technology, the cloud-based platform has transacted more than 60 gigawatt hours of electricity.

In the last two years, it had helped some 500 companies in Singapore save a combined \$S1.5 million (RM4.58 million).

“The industry in Malaysia is about to experience a technology breakthrough with TNB behind it.”

MARTIN LIM
Electrify CEO

