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Ministry, Energy Commission enhance SelCo programme guidelines

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File photo shows the station housing the hybrid solar system in Bario, Sarawak. PETRA is confident the enhancement to SelCo Programme guidelines will broaden access to green electricity, particularly for corporate and industry users. — Bernama photo

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**PUTRAJAYA:** The Energy Transition and Water Transformation Ministry (PETRA) and the Energy Commission (ST) will improve guidelines for the implementation of the Solar for Self-Consumption (SelCo) Programme, introduced in 2017.

In a statement yesterday, the ministry said the improvements, which included allowing solar system installations for electricity users in the agriculture category, would take effect from Jan 1 next year.

"In line with current policies and the government's commitment to accelerating energy transition efforts, and in response to demands for solar installations on land and water bodies, PETRA has agreed to permit configurations beyond building rooftops.

"PETRA is confident the enhancement to SelCo Programme guidelines will broaden access to green electricity, particularly for corporate and industry users, to meet environmental, social and governance (ESG) commitments while supporting the national energy transition goal of achieving a 70 per cent renewable energy capacity in electricity supply by 2050," it said in the

statement.

At present, the existing 'Guidelines on the Connection of Solar Photovoltaic Installation for Self-Consumption' issued by ST, allow electricity users to install solar PV systems for self-use on building rooftops, with a maximum installation capacity of up to 85 per cent of their maximum demand.

Solar system installations have so far been limited to building rooftops in line with the programme's original aim of optimising rooftop spaces for electricity generation without repurposing new land areas.

Taking into account the need for green electricity among corporate and industrial users to meet ESG commitments, PETRA said the improvement to the SelCo Programme would include the installation of ground-mounted solar systems and floating solar systems on water bodies within the user's premises.

Under the updated guidelines, the existing 85 per cent installation capacity limit for non-domestic users has been abolished to better support corporations and industries in reducing their carbon footprint while fulfilling ESG commitments. — Bernama