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ASEAN POWER GRID SET TO 'RISE'

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MALAYSIA-VIETNAM-SINGAPORE TIE-UP

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Collaboration aligns with regional vision of interconnected electricity networks, says Fadillah

KUALA LUMPUR

THE Renewable and Inter-connected Sustainable Energy (Rise) agreement will be part of the Asean Power Grid, involving land-based and undersea transmission infrastructure.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, who is also energy transition and water transformation minister, said yesterday the agreement involved Petronas and Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB), Singapore's Sembcorp Industries and Vietnam's Petrovietnam.

He said the collaboration aligned with the regional vision of interconnected electricity networks.

"This memorandum of understanding (MoU) signifies a collaborative partnership between Vietnam, Malaysia and Singapore.

"Initially, it will supply renewable energy from Vietnam to Malaysia. A portion will later go to Singapore.

"The transmission will be carried out via undersea cables underwritten by Petronas and TNB."



He said this after the document-exchange ceremony.

Fadillah said the agreement was just the beginning.

The next stage involved working out the technical and commercial details, including the business model, he added.

During the 25th Asean Economic Community Council on Sunday, Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz said negotiations on the enhanced MoU for the Asean Power Grid were set to conclude.

A signing will take place at the 43rd Asean Ministers on Energy Meeting in October.



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof arriving for the Asean Energy Transition Meeting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.
BERNAMA PIC

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said Malaysia would spearhead the first phase of an ambitious regional power grid integration plan.

This phase will begin with an economically viable connection from Vietnam to northern Malaysia and Singapore.

Anwar said the first phase would connect Vietnam to northern Malaysia, after which it would link to Singapore through the country's national grid.

Petronas president and group

chief executive officer Tengku Tan Sri Muhammad Taufik said the agreement marked a milestone for the three countries.

He said it symbolised cooperation in the era of energy system decarbonisation.

"We at Petronas are proud to work with TNB, Sembcorp and Petrovietnam, and this serves as a catalyst for the Asean Power Grid in the near future," he said this after the MoU signing ceremony.

TNB president and chief executive officer Datuk Megat Jalaluddin Megat Hassan said

the next phase of the joint development involved the feasibility study.

This would determine the scale and extent of the ventures to be pursued, he added.

"We are going to start soon, but hopefully, we will complete it quickly so we can share something substantial with the public.

"We are looking at a number of milestones, and we understand that Asean energy ministers will meet in Kuala Lumpur in October. Hopefully, we can show our progress by then," he added.