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ESG IN THE NEWS

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JAN 17

• The recent enhancement of the Corporate Renewable Energy Supply Scheme (CRESS) is seen as a positive step for Malaysia's renewable energy (RE) players, though challenges remain, according to **Affin Hwang Investment Bank** (Affin Hwang IB) Research.

The research outfit believes the changes offer "more business opportunities" for renewable energy developers, contractors, battery energy storage system (BESS) companies and Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB).

• Clean-energy services and solutions provider **Samaiden Group Bhd** is racing to execute the 99.99MW solar plant in Pasir Mas, Kelantan secured under the Large Scale Solar 5 (LSS5) programme to take advantage of lower solar-panel prices and realise a better-than-expected internal rate of return from the project.

• After successfully producing and exporting methanol, **Sarawak Petchem Sdn Bhd** is now setting sights on another new product – green methanol.

State-owned Sarawak Petchem chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Husain said green methanol could be used as a sustainable marine fuel for the shipping industry, contributing to a significant reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, which is crucial in addressing climate change.

JAN 21

• The RE sector is poised for sustained growth till 2028, following the unveiling of the additional 2GW bid for the LSS5 programme.

The Energy Commission had doubled the programme's total capacity to 4GW, four times the size of LSS4's capacity of 800MW.

Kenanga Research said the key beneficiaries of the LSS5 initiative includes engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning (EPCC) companies such as Solarvest Holdings Bhd, Samaiden Group Bhd and other players with strong market positions and proven track records in previous RE initiatives.

• **Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sdn Bhd** (Perodua) and **Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the development of next-generation electric vehicles (xEV).

The MoU includes plans to educate and train future engineers in developing new technologies related to xEV.

JAN 22

• The natural resources and environmental sustainability agenda will continue without any significant disruption under the newly-elected US president Donald Trump's administration, says Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad.

He emphasised that the government would continue to be pragmatic in terms of governing and would focus on a multilateral approach in tackling climate change.

JAN 23

• Carmakers from China are making strong inroads into Malaysia, according to total industry volume (TIV) data in 2024.

They have also put up a strong competition with attractive price cuts, which have spurred consumer interest, said **RHB Research**.

However, the competition is limited to the EV space as the completely-build-up (CBU) units are subject to a RM100,000 floor price.

There could be a pick-up in interest in the EV space since a tax holiday which had been in place is set to end after 2025, according to the research house.

JAN 29

• **Salcon Bhd's** wholly-owned subsidiary **Mentari Kamuning Sdn Bhd (MKSB)** has signed a new enhanced dispatch agreement (Neda) connection agreement with TNB.

In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, Salcon said the agreement enables MKSB to operate as a generator company to design, construct, own, operate and maintain a solar energy generation facility with a capacity of 7MW in Sungai Siput, Kuala Kangsar, Perak.

FEB 1

• **Cypark Resources Bhd's** Danu Tok Uban floating solar plant in Kelantan has achieved full commercial operations for the remaining 30MWac of generation capacity.

In a statement, Cypark highlighted that the country's largest floating solar installation had earlier achieved commercial operations for another 30MWac on Jan 7, 2025.

The combined 60MWac floating solar facility is now fully operational and supplying clean energy to the national grid, reinforcing Cypark's commitment to driving Malaysia's RE transition.

FEB 4

• **Malakoff Corp Bhd** has acquired the remaining 51% stake in ZEC Solar Sdn Bhd and 49% stake in TJZ Suria Sdn Bhd from Zelleco Engineering Sdn Bhd.

TA Research viewed this development as mildly positive, as it increases Malakoff's effective RE capacity to about 128MW from 113MW previously.

This will contribute to the group's target of achieving 1,400MW RE capacity by 2031, the research house added.

• **Cypark Resources Bhd** is expected to see further upside from the LSS5 Petra 5+ programme and the 500MWac hybrid hydro floating solar (HHFS) plant at Tasik Kenyir, Terengganu.

BIMB Securities deemed Cypark as an experienced EPCC player and floating solar farm owner, positioning it to benefit from the recent LSS Petra 5+ announcement.

FEB 7

• **Zecon Bhd** has entered into an MoU with Petrosabah Sdn Bhd, a wholly owned

subsidiary of **Innoprise Corp Sdn Bhd**, to jointly develop a large-scale photovoltaic (PV) or PV floating integrated project in Lahad Datu, Sabah.

In a filing with Bursa Malaysia, Zecon said the partnership is expected to pave the way for the signing of a joint venture agreement to the proposed project.

FEB 10

• **Samaiden Group Bhd** is eyeing several RE projects, such as LSS5, with the aim of having RE assets account for about 12% of group revenue.

This underpins the group's internal target of generating 10%-15% of revenue from recurring income, said TA Research.

The group is targeting up to RM700mil in potential EPCC jobs from LSS5, which translates into an estimated 200MWac of project capacity, or a 10% share of the total capacity auctioned under LSS5.

FEB 11

• **Hong Leong Investment Bank (HLIB) Research** is positively surprised about the country's large scale solar 6 (LSS6) programme, which is expected to be open for bidding in 2Q25.

The research house is expecting to see between RM15bil and RM18bil worth of solar EPCC contracts to be formalised over the next 24 months.

FEB 13

• **Pengurusan Air Selangor Sdn Bhd (Air Selangor)** has implemented various strategic initiatives in 2024, focusing on strengthening operational efficiency and improving infrastructure, ensuring best experience for its 9.62 million consumers in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya.

Moving forward to 2025, Air Selangor said it remains committed to strengthening the resilience of the water supply system through various strategic initiatives that provide long-term benefits to consumers.

FEB 17

• **IGB Commercial Real Estate Investment Trust (IGB Commercial-REIT)** anticipates "flight-to-quality" and "flight-to-sustainability" trends to drive leasing decisions in 2025.

The trend refers to the desire to seek out the best possible assets in terms of quality and/or sustainability.

With ESG becoming increasingly important, IGB Commercial-REIT joint deputy chief executive officer (commercial) Irene Sin May Lin said it is essential for corporate real estate portfolios to offer a mix of core and flexible spaces, modern amenities and strong ESG credentials.

Sin, who is also the chief executive officer of **IGB Property Management**, said demonstrating a strong commitment to ESG principles is essential to attract and retain premium tenants and ensure long-term financial stability.

• **Sarawak Energy Bhd** has commissioned Malaysia's first utility-scale Battery Energy Storage System (Bess) at the Sejingkat Power Plant.

Sarawak Energy said in a statement that the 60MW Bess, which was energised in December 2024, provides essential grid services, including primary spinning reserve (emergency reserve), voltage and frequency regulation, as well as peak demand management.

FEB 18

• **Kinergy Advancement Bhd's (KAB)** wholly owned subsidiary **KAB Energy Holdings Sdn Bhd** is collaborating with Perbadanan Kemajuan Negeri Perak (KPNPK) for the development of 29 potential RE projects in Perak with a total capacity of over 1,800MW.

The energy solution provider and Perak state agency said in a joint statement that they would identify, evaluate and develop the projects by utilising KAB's technical expertise to drive innovative energy developments.

• **Genetec Technology Bhd's** new orders worth over RM100mil for body panel assembly related to a new autonomous EV model for its US-based customer, offers an earnings boost this year.

CIMB Securities noted the new order marks Genetec's maiden expansion beyond battery cells and pack assembly for the American EV client.

With the new contract, Genetec now has an order backlog of RM300mil, split between its US and EU customers while its tender book stands at RM300mil.

FEB 19

• **Meta Bright Group Bhd** is expanding its presence in the RE sector through a joint venture to provide energy solutions.

Meta Bright Group said that it had partnered with United Success Holding Pte Ltd and an individual identified only as Yang Lei to establish Meta Bright Solutions Sdn Bhd to develop and operate battery energy storage systems (BESS). EV charging infrastructure and energy efficiency solutions in Malaysia and potentially across South-East Asia.


FEB 21

• **ES Sunlogy** debuted on the ACE Market of Bursa Malaysia on Feb 20, opening at 30.5 sen, a 1.67% premium over its initial public offering (IPO) price of 30 sen.

Chief executive officer Sam Teo Chee Teong said the group remains optimistic on the company's growth moving forward and will continue to expand its portfolio within the solar energy portfolio.

• **Sunview Group Bhd** has secured an EPCC contract worth RM45.04mil from Quantum Sustainable Energy Sdn Bhd.

The EPCC contract is for the development of a solar PV energy generation facility at University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.



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