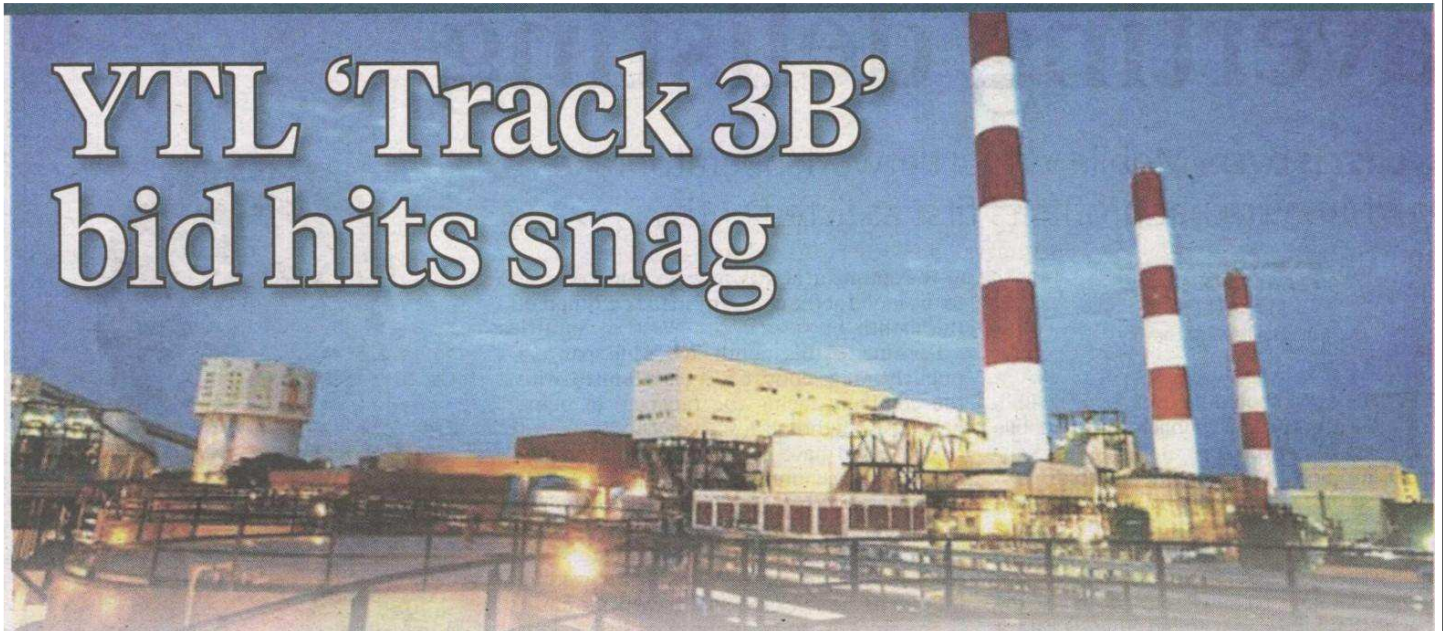


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PR Value	RM 34,843		



# YTL 'Track 3B' bid hits snag

**COMPLIANCE ISSUES:** Energy Commission to meet firm's key equipment supplier this week

**ZURAIMI ABDULLAH**

**Y**TL POWER International Bhd's bid to win a 2,000-megawatt (MW) power plant project under "Track 3B" looks to be in doubt due to compliance issues.

It is learnt that the Energy Commission has called in one of YTL Power's key equipment suppliers in the Track 3B project for a meeting this week.

The commission needs further clarification on YTL Power's bid and is doing further audit, said people close to the tender process.

It is uncommon for equipment suppliers to be called in for a meeting, they said.

The equipment supplier is said to be a foreign-controlled boiler contractor for YTL Power's bid.

YTL Power is seen as the front-runner in the

multi-billion ringgit project as its bid of 25.12 sen per kilowatt hour (kWh) is the lowest in the tender called by the commission.

Competing bidders include heavyweights Malaysia Development Bhd, Malakoff Corp Bhd and Tenaga Nasional Bhd.

However, doubts about YTL Power's compliance with the commission's standards have been raised.

Sources said the commission has instituted world-class standards to ensure that Malaysia's energy security remains efficient, sustainable and reliable well into the future.

In the Track 3B project, the power plant must be based on proven ultra-supercritical (USC) or supercritical (SC) technology. → Turn to **B12**

## 'Equipment needs proven track record'

→ From **B1**

To ensure the plant's reliability, the commission requires all equipment to have a proven track record. This means that any unit used in the power plant

must be of similar design and technology to five units already in use.

They must also have an output capacity of at least 700MW each and have been in successful operation for three years or

more.

Sources said in the USC category, YTL Power's boiler contractor is untested. The contractor had only recently won its first bid to supply USC equipment, although it has

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previously supplied equipment in the SC category.

However, there are fewer than five boilers manufactured by it being used in plants of 700MW and also been in operation for more than three years.

This means that the contractor has fallen short of the commission's requirements.

It is learnt that moving up to a boiler suitable for a 1,000MW plant requires not just scaling up the boiler, but also other considerations,

such as the need to use different materials, strengthening every pipe, nozzle, joint, nut and bolt, and re-designing the mechanism to cope with higher pressures and output requirements.