

Headline	Net metering framework next year to offset power costs		
MediaTitle	Malaysian Reserve		
Date	18 Dec 2013	Language	English
Circulation	10,500	Readership	42,000
Section	Corporate Malaysia	Page No	1,4
ArticleSize	403 cm <sup>2</sup>	Journalist	LINDA ARCHIBALD
PR Value	RM 11,406		



# Net metering framework next year to offset power costs

*SEDA, TNB paving way for corporate sector to better manage electricity bills*

by LINDA ARCHIBALD

**COMPANIES** using solar photovoltaic (PV) systems will soon be able to utilise the energy generated for self-consumption under a new net metering framework to be rolled out next year.

The move will help the companies involved to manage their electricity bills in the wake of the coming power tariff hike from January onwards, aside from earning revenue by feeding electricity into the grid under the Feed-in-Tariff programme.

Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) Malaysia will work with Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) in 2014 to develop a net meter-



**Badriyah (left) and Chen during a recent media visit to Malaysia Palm Oil Board's experimental mill at Labu palm oil estate in Negri Sembilan**

*Pic by Hafzi Mohamed*

ing framework which will pave the way for this, SEDA Malaysia CEO Badriyah Malek told *The Malaysian Reserve*.

Net metering is a system in which solar panels or other renewable energy (RE) generators are connected

to a public-utility power grid and surplus power is transferred onto the grid, allowing customers to offset the cost of power drawn from the utility.

This, she said, will enable companies to enjoy reductions in electricity

bills while promoting energy efficiency (EE) in the corporate sector.

SEDA chief corporate officer Dr Wei-nee Chen said net metering was in the past permitted under the Malaysian Building Integrated Photovoltaic (MBIPV) project for PV systems installed under the Suria 1,000 programme and demonstration projects.

Outside the MBIPV project, a net metering framework has yet to be agreed upon, said Chen who was the technical advisor for MBIPV until it ceased in 2010.

MBIPV was a joint initiative from 2006 between the Malaysian government, United Nations Development Programme and Global Environment Facility to promote widespread and sustainable solar PV market in Malaysia, with one of its objectives to develop a long-term BIPV programme that provides 30% BIPV growth and further cost reduction to the BIPV systems.

SEE P4 COL1

Headline	Net metering framework next year to offset power costs		
MediaTitle	Malaysian Reserve		
Date	18 Dec 2013	Language	English
Circulation	10,500	Readership	42,000
Section	Corporate Malaysia	Page No	1,4
ArticleSize	403 cm <sup>2</sup>	Journalist	LINDA ARCHIBALD
PR Value	RM 11,406		

## Explore reverse bidding for commercial PV systems

### FROM P1 Net metering system

Hence, the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water has tasked SEDA to develop the framework for the benefit of commercial PV applications.

"Also, the net metering concept under the MBIPV project is based on self-consumption and excess power can be credited or carried forward to the next month.

"However, in reality, this rarely happens as the owners' electricity consumption almost always exceed the PV electricity generated each month," Chen added.

The rules and guidelines governing the new net metering framework have yet to be finalised.

On the percentage of savings on electricity (energy) consumption, Badriyah said this depends on the amount of electricity generated from the solar PV system, which in turn is determined by the size of the solar PV capacity and the total volume of electricity consumed at the premise.

"The difference between two figures is the savings or rather the reduction in electricity required from the grid,"

she said in an email response, adding that EE measures help further reduce the electricity consumption.

On Dec 2, the government announced that TNB will raise electricity tariff by about 15% from January, a move which may trigger imminent inflationary pressure on the economy and hit manufacturers like glove producers and steel mill players.

Unveiling SEDA Malaysia's other plans for 2014, Badriyah said the authority will also explore reverse bidding for larger commercial PV systems to promote greater financial efficiency of the RE fund.

It is also looking to finalise and gazette the amended schedule of the RE Act 2011 and some subsidiary legislations. Also in the pipeline are plans to regulate solar PV service providers to ensure their service quality is maintained and the commencement of grid-connected PV systems course for installers.

Another key focus for SEDA Malaysia next year is the upcoming Second International Sustainable Energy Summit 2014 from March 18-19, 2014, in Petaling Jaya.