

# PRESS RELEASE

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# TNB & UTHM IN SMART COLLABORATION ON SOLAR PROJECTS TO REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINT

• Smart collaboration focused on Rooftop Solar, R&D and knowledge sharing with Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM).

**Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB),** through its wholly-owned subsidiary, GSPARX Sdn. Bhd. (GSPARX), and Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) have formed a smart collaboration on research and development (R&D) as well as knowledge sharing with the Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (FKEE) in the field of renewable energy (RE), specifically solar energy.

According to TNB's Chief Retail Officer, Datuk Ir. Megat Jalaluddin Megat Hassan, TNB is ready to contribute their expertise in the field of solar energy through GSPARX to assist UTHM in its R&D and training on solar photovoltaic systems.

He added that GSPARX had completed its solar system installation at UTHM campus in Parit Raja, comprising 25 buildings including walkway and solar carpark. The system, which has been operation since 12 November 2021, is offered at zero upfront cost to UTHM.

"TNB is willing to extend our expertise in the field of solar energy through GSPARX by collaborating with UTHM in R&D and knowledge sharing on solar photovoltaic systems, which is aligned with our aspiration to be the leading provider of sustainable energy solutions in Malaysia and internationally," he said.

This was shared by Megat Jalaluddin at the MoU Document Exchange Ceremony on the Collaboration between UTHM and GSPARX and the Official Launch of the Solar PV System in Batu Pahat, Johor on 19 December 2021. The exchange of the MoU documents was witnessed by the Minister of Higher Education, Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad.

The Vice Chancellor of UTHM, Professor Datuk Dr Wahid Razzaly explained that UTHM became the first public institution of higher learning with the largest rooftop solar installation in Malaysia to date.

"The rooftop solar project at UTHM's main campus, comprising 25 selected buildings, has a capacity of 6.9MWp, generating an estimated savings of RM25.7 million in electricity bills throughout the 21-year agreement period," he added.



This initiative is capable of reducing carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions in the quantum of 6,203 metric tonnes per year. This amount is equivalent to removing 1,359 vehicles per year on the road or planting 103,293 saplings to function as a carbon sink for absorption of carbon within ten years.

UTHM had previously signed the Supply Agreement for Renewable Energy (SARE) agreement with GSPARX and TNB at the UTHM Parit Raja Campus, Johor, on 29 January 2021.

Another Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) focused on R&D and knowledge sharing with the university's staff and students in the field of solar photovoltaic systems was signed on 4 October 2021.

To date, GSPARX has successfully acquired over 1000 customers with a capacity of 116MWp under the Net Energy Metering (NEM) and self-consumption (SELCO) schemes through SARE and direct purchasing models.

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For TNB

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## For UTHM

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#### About GSPARX

GSPARX, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TNB, was established in January 2018. It actively pursues strategic partnerships with various companies, organisations and government agencies to offer its expertise in rooftop solar panel installations, a renewable energy market of great potential in Malaysia.

Through GSPARX's Zero Capex Solution, customers from government agencies, commercial and industrial sectors can now generate clean energy from rooftop solar solutions to better manage their electricity bills. For more information, please visit <a href="http://www.tnb.com.my/solar/">http://www.tnb.com.my/solar/</a> or <a href="http://www.gsparx.com/">http://www.gsparx.com/</a>

### About UTHM

Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) located in Batu Pahat, Johor is the 15<sup>th</sup> public Institution of Higher Learning (IPTA) in Malaysia. Established on 27 September 2000, this university is part of the Malaysian Technical University Network (MTUN). UTHM has more than 19,000 students pursuing various courses in the field of engineering, science and technology. Today, UTHM is on its way to becoming Global Technopreneur university with the ability to produce skilled workforces in support of industrial needs.





The MoU Document Exchange between Managing Director of GSPARX, Elmie Fairul Mahsuri (far right) and UTHM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr Wahid Razzaly (far left) was witnessed by Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad, Minister of Higher Education (back row, middle) and TNB Chief Retail Officer, Datuk Ir. Megat Jalaluddin (back row, third from left) in Batu Pahat, Johor on 19 December 2021.



TNB Chief Retail Officer, Datuk Ir. Megat Jalaluddin (front) explaining the implemented rooftop solar project at UTHM to the Minister of Higher Education, Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad (second left) in Batu Pahat, Johor on 19 December 2021.





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The rooftop solar project at UTHM's main campus comprises 25 selected buildings, including the Electrical Engineering Complex (building in the forefront, 753.3kWp) and the Mechanical Engineering Complex (building in the rear, 811.8kWp).