

PRESS RELEASE

S.A. 2026/08/28_21 (HQ)

TNB COMMENCES DEVELOPMENT OF 500KV NATIONAL GRID BACKBONE, REINFORCING MALAYSIA'S ENERGY SECURITY AND TRANSITION

Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) marked another significant achievement in its commitment to building a future-ready energy infrastructure with the commencement of a new 500kV National Grid Backbone transmission line – a strategic infrastructure project that will reinforce national energy security, accelerate energy transition and accommodate the nation's future electricity needs.

The launching of the 500kV Transmission Main Intake Substation (PMU) Kampung Awah project site in Maran, Pahang, today marks an important milestone in the development of the National Grid Backbone, which will connect strategic locations across the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia.

The National Grid Backbone is designed to enhance the resilience, reliability, flexibility and transmission capacity of the National Grid, while advancing the implementation of the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR).

Upon its completion by 2030, the National Grid Backbone is set to become the longest 500kV transmission system to ever be developed in Malaysia with a total length of approximately 500km.

The launching of PMU Kampung Awah project site was officiated by Pahang Menteri Besar, Dato' Sri Diraja Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail, and attended by TNB President/Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Ir. Ts. Shamsul Ahmad.

Kampung Awah as Strategic Node

PMU Kampung Awah will serve as one of the key strategic transmission nodes within the National Grid Backbone, enhancing transmission capacity, reinforcing inter-regional power transfer and improving the resilience and reliability of Peninsular Malaysia's electricity network.

Strategically located along the Paka-Kampung Awah-Bahau South-Kulai East transmission corridor, PMU Kampung Awah will enhance grid connectivity and provide additional capacity to enable the integration of existing and future generation sources.

The project is also expected to support the growth of industrial and commercial activities, facilitate high-value investments and create opportunities across the local supply chain, including engineering, construction, operations and related services.

Strengthening the National Grid

The 500 kV National Grid Backbone will provide high-capacity bulk power transmission across Peninsular Malaysia, improving connectivity while enhancing the efficiency and resilience of the electricity network.

The infrastructure development will reinforce the National Grid across Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Negeri Sembilan and Johor, further enhancing overall grid readiness and enabling the successful implementation of the NETR.

The development forms part of TNB's broader long-term commitment to modernising Malaysia's electricity grid. From 2025 to 2027, TNB is investing RM43 billion in grid development and modernisation to strengthen the reliability, resilience and capacity of the National Grid.

The National Grid Backbone will provide the transmission capacity and grid flexibility required to support Malaysia's evolving electricity demand, while enabling greater renewable energy penetration, particularly in the Eastern Region. It will also strengthen the grid's readiness to meet the growing needs of AI-driven industries, data centres, digital infrastructure and high-value green investments, enhancing Malaysia's competitiveness and positioning the country as a prominent regional energy hub

Enabling a Connected, Sustainable Energy Future

Wan Rosdy said the development of PMU Kampung Awah strategically positions Pahang within the National Grid and will serve as a catalyst for attracting green and high-tech investments to the state, supported by greater transmission capacity, grid reliability and readiness for future energy demand.

"As a key transmission node within the 500kV National Grid Backbone, the project will strengthen Pahang's connectivity to the National Grid and enhance our readiness to support new industries, high-value investments and emerging renewable energy developments. This infrastructure will also create opportunities for local businesses and communities across the supply chain, further contributing to Pahang's economic development and positioning the state as an important contributor to Malaysia's energy transition," he said.

Shamsul said the development of the 500kV National Grid Backbone demonstrates TNB's commitment to investing in critical infrastructure that strengthens Malaysia's energy security while enabling the country's energy transition.

"A resilient and future-ready grid is fundamental to Malaysia's ability to meet growing electricity demand, integrate more renewable energy and support sustainable economic growth. The 500kV National Grid Backbone will strengthen the transmission backbone of Peninsular Malaysia, providing the capacity and flexibility needed to meet the nation's evolving energy needs while advancing the NETR," he said.

The commencement of the 500kV National Grid Backbone marks an important step in strengthening the foundation of Malaysia's future energy system, ensuring the National Grid is ready to meet the country's evolving electricity needs, enable the energy transition and underpin sustainable economic growth for years to come.

Released in Maran, Pahang on 28 August 2026 at 2:00 pm

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About Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB)

Tenaga Nasional Berhad (www.tnb.com.my) is a leading Malaysian utility company in Asia with an international presence in the United Kingdom (UK), Ireland, Australia, Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan, and Cambodia. Within the renewable energy space, TNB has a total gross portfolio of 3.5 Gigawatts (GW) in Peninsular Malaysia (including 2.5GW of large hydro) and 1.3GW across the UK, Ireland, Australia, and Turkiye, comprising mainly solar, wind, and hydro energy generation assets. In addition to being the nation's primary electricity generation enterprise, TNB also transmits and distributes electricity across Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and the Federal Territory of Labuan. As of 30 June 2026, TNB supplies electricity to over 11 million customers.



The symbolic launch ceremony of the 500kV Kampung Awah Main Intake Substation (PMU) project site was officiated by Pahang Menteri Besar, Dato' Sri Diraja Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail (centre), and attended by Deputy Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA), Dato' Sri Abdul Rahman Mohamad (forth from left); Deputy Minister of Economy, Dato' Indera Mohd Shahar Abdullah (fourth from right); Pahang State Financial Officer, Dato' Indera Fadzilla Salleh (second from left); Chenor State Legislative Assembly Coordinator, Dato' Sri Shahaniza Shamsuddin (third from left); Maran District Officer, Che Wan Muhammad Salleh Che Wan Adnan (left); TNB President/CEO, Datuk Ir. Ts. Shamsul Ahmad (third from right); Senior Chief Network Officer, Ir. Mahathir Nor Ismail (second from right); and Chief Grid Officer, Ir. Hasmarizal Hassan (right) in Maran, Pahang, today (28 August 2026).



The close collaboration among all parties was demonstrated at the launch of the 500kV Kampung Awah Main Intake Substation (PMU) project site in Maran, Pahang, today (28 August 2026). Upon completion, this infrastructure development will strengthen the National Grid across Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, Negeri Sembilan and Johor, further enhancing overall grid readiness and supporting the successful implementation of the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR).