

SIARAN AKHBAR PRESS STATEMENT

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SAUDI ELECTRICITY CO. KEEN TO EXPAND BUSINESS TIES WITH TNB

• Invites TNB's participation in Saudi's Power sector

A high-powered delegation from Saudi Electricity Company (SEC) is in Kuala Lumpur to explore opportunities that could deepen its business ties with Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB).

The nine delegates, led by SEC Chairman, Dr. Saleh Hussein AlAwajji met TNB President/Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Seri Ir. Azman Mohd and his officials Wednesday to exchange ideas on areas where the two quasi government entities can expand their existing collaboration.

Dr. Saleh is also Deputy Minister for Electricity, Ministry of Water and Electricity, Saudi Arabia.

TNB and SEC are part member of a Consortium in the Shuaibah Independent Water and Power Project (IWPP) located 110 km south of Jeddah.

Shuaibah IWPP is a design & built project to produce 880,000 cubic meter per day of desalinated water and 900 MW of electricity. Both the water and power output is sold to Water & Electricity Company (WEC) under a 20-year Power and Water Purchase Agreement (PWPA). The power and water generation units serves the cities of Jeddah, Makkah and Taif.

Dr. Saleh told TNB top management that the value of potential investment opportunities in Saudi's power industry is estimated at between USD150 billion to USD200 billion in the next 10 years as the kingdom's electricity demand is growing at eight percent or 5,000-6,000 megawatt per annum.

"Every year, we have to build two to three power plants," he said, adding that SEC would like to see TNB's additional presence in the Kingdom similar to Shuaibah.

Describing TNB's key operational numbers as "impressive", he said TNB power plants may be considered as new potential sites for management attachment program that SEC normally reserves for "well-established power utilities".

Dr. Saleh added that SEC may also consider sending its staff for training at TNB's training institute, ILSAS.

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