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GRID OF THE FUTURE PROGRAMME

TNB INVESTING RM21B IN ENERGY PLAN

National power firm seeks to boost network readiness and reliability



Tenaga Nasional Bhd president and chief executive officer Datuk Baharin Din speaking at the Enlit Asia 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand on Tuesday.

KUALA LUMPUR

TENAGA Nasional Bhd (TNB) is investing RM21 billion in its Grid of the Future programme from 2022 to 2024 to boost its transmission and distribution network readiness and reliability.

President and chief executive officer Datuk Baharin Din said that on a regional level, TNB was working with local authorities to identify transmission grid locations that would improve market integration.

"Given the time required to plan and set up the necessary regulatory, financial and physical infrastructure, the region must act swiftly to accelerate these efforts. All of us must play our part in our shared journey towards a greener, more equitable and resilient future," he said at the Enlit Asia 2022 in Bangkok on Tuesday.

He said Asean power utility companies needed to accelerate collaborations towards achieving an interconnected Asean Power Grid (APG) in support of the region's collective goal of achieving net zero emission as member countries shifted to cleaner and more sustainable energy.

Baharin said an interconnected grid like the APG was crucial in helping Asean countries leverage resources from their neighbours during times of crisis, as well as providing the opportunity to trade and leverage the pricing of resources at other times.

As Asean's power companies accelerate their transition to a sustainable future, the sharing of renewable energy sources would spur incremental inflow of private investments into the region, as well as drive innovation and growth of clean energy in the region, he said.

Citing the commencement of the Laos, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore Power Integration Project this year, Baharin said he was confident that Asean power companies could work towards realising the APG.

"We are in a good position to design a power trade framework that, hopefully, will match each country's electricity industry structure and provide a win-win situation for all," he said.

He added that TNB, in its holistic approach to responsible energy transition, recognises the importance of Asean interconnection.

"Thus, we are committed to expediting the progress of the APG," he added. **Bernama**