



21 October 2009

CLP to power first Hong Kong customer with solar energy A commercial standalone RE project being built on Town Island

Marking a further step towards promoting local renewable energy (RE) sources, CLP is building Hong Kong's first commercial standalone power supply system that relies mainly on solar energy for customers on Town Island, Sai Kung. The project involves the installation of 900 solar panels and two wind turbines to produce as much as 200 kW of electricity that is capable of powering up to 200 sets of 1-hp air-conditioners and reducing an estimated 70,000 kg of CO₂ emissions every year.

The project is divided into two stages. The first stage, involving the installation of 100 solar panels with a capacity of 20kW, commenced in August 2009 and is expected to be completed later this year. Stage 2 will see the installation of a further 800 solar panels and two wind turbines that generate power by both solar and wind for the island. The entire project is scheduled for completion by early 2011.

This is an exceptional example of how renewable energy can be applied in Hong Kong with clear economic and environmental justifications. The project will put solar energy to commercial use for the first time and, at the same time, provide a platform whereby experience and data can be collected to support further research into the potential of wider applications of this form of alternative energy in the market.

Town Island, originally named Fu Tau Fan Chau or better known as Dawn Island, is a remote island where Operation Dawn, as CLP's only customer there, operates a non-profit drug rehabilitation centre. "CLP has studied for years different plans to supply power to Town Island. While building a submarine cable or an overhead line to connect power to this remote island was considered uneconomical and would create adverse impact both visually and ecologically in the ocean environment, we are pleased to see that the advent of the renewable energy technology has provided a viable option and that the ample space available on the island for installing solar panels and the abundant supply of solar and wind resources have made the project a long term and sustainable solution," said Mr Paul Poon, CLP Power's Director, Power Systems.

Unprecedented in Hong Kong, the supply project is the territory's first large-scale standalone renewable energy system. CLP has set up a special task force bringing together experts and representatives from different departments to plan and implement this challenging project.

In addition to power supply, CLP also provides the island with voluntary services. More than 120 staff and their families not only carry out rewiring works for the Town Island rehabilitation centre, but also teach the rehabilitants the techniques, the standards and the safety knowledge required. The skills they learn can also be applied when they resume working in the society in the future.

Through this project, CLP also hopes to further promote public education on the applications of renewable energy in Hong Kong. A dedicated project website will also be developed as an interactive platform for such education to share knowledge and information on the project with the general public, teachers and students in particular.

"The project also underpins CLP Group's commitment to renewable energy, a non-carbon emitting type of power generation, as outlined in our Climate Vision 2050", added Mr Poon.

As early as in 2004, CLP set a voluntary target to have 5% of its total generating capacity come from renewable energy sources by 2010 and this target was met three years ahead of its schedule. Currently, CLP's RE capacity generated from wind power, hydropower and biomass amounts to over 1,300 MW, representing approximately 10% of the Group's portfolio capacity.

About CLP

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited is the largest electric utility in Hong Kong serving the business and domestic community in Kowloon, the New Territories, Lantau and most of the outlying islands. Operating a vertically integrated electricity generation, transmission and distribution business, CLP Power provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to over 5.5 million people in its supply area.

Outside Hong Kong, CLP Holdings also invests in energy businesses in Mainland China, Australia, India and Southeast Asia. It is the largest external investor in the Chinese mainland electricity industry, and a leading international private sector power company in the Asia Pacific region with a diversified portfolio of power generation from gas, coal, renewables and nuclear.

CLP is listed in the Global Dow – a 150–stock index of the world’s leading blue–chips, the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific Index (DJSI Asia Pacific), and the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific 40 Index (DJSI Asia Pacific 40).



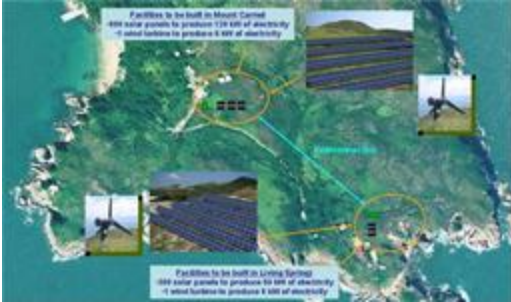
Mr Paul Poon, Director, Power Systems of CLP Power, presents the scale of Town Island Renewable Energy Supply Project.



Poly Crystalline Silicon technology is adopted for the Town Island Renewable Energy Supply Project. Featured in the photo is Mr Paul Poon, Director, Power Systems of CLP Power.



(Left) Mr Paul Poon, Director, Power Systems of CLP Power and Mrs Mamre Lilian Yeh, General Secretary of Operation Dawn energize the Hong Kong’s first commercial standalone RE project using solar energy as the main power source.



Upon the completion of the Town Island Renewable Energy Supply Project, the 900 solar panels and 2 wind turbines will be able to generate approximately 200kW electricity.

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