

29 June 2015

CLP's First Wholly-owned Solar Project in the Mainland Integrates Economic Farming with Clean Power Generation

On 21 May 2015, CLP Holdings celebrated the completion of its Xicun I Solar Power Station in Yunnan Province in the presence of distinguished guests from the Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture and Binchuan County authorities as well as business partners. The move exemplifies the Group's investment strategy that places Mainland China as a primary growth market with a focus on developing renewable energy projects.

The Xicun I Solar Power Station is not only CLP's first wholly-owned photovoltaic project in Mainland China but also the first large-scale demonstration project of agriculture-and-solar integration in Yunnan. A total of 540,000 seedlings of honeysuckle flowers – a crop commonly used in Chinese medicine and carries an economic value – have been planted across the entire solar farm. By combining agricultural activities with solar generation, the project brings about multiple benefits including maximising land use, creating jobs for local farmers and fueling the community with clean energy.

“We have taken a practical and innovative approach to this undertaking which is very much in line with CLP's commitment to sustainable development. We have over many years made great efforts to integrate sustainability with our operations across the Group. What we see here today is a good example of how CLP has gone one step further putting our values into practice,” remarked Mr Richard Lancaster, CEO of CLP Holdings, at the completion ceremony.

The Xicun I Solar Power Station involved a total investment of RMB440 million. Construction of the 50MW Direct Current capacity (equivalent to 42MW Alternate Current) solar farm, which occupies a site of 86 hectares, began in March last year and power generation commenced in December. In the first five months of 2015, the station has already generated 41,300MWh of electricity, 13.8% above its planned target. The excellent performance of the project demonstrates its advantageous location in Xicun Village of Dali with abundant solar resources. Building on the success of the first phase of the project, preparation work for the second phase is underway to add another 50MW Direct Current capacity of solar power generation at the existing site.

About CLP Group

CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, is the holding company for the CLP Group, one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia Pacific. Through CLP Power Hong Kong Limited, it operates a vertically-integrated electricity supply business providing a highly-reliable supply of electricity to 80% of Hong Kong's population.

Outside Hong Kong, CLP holds investment in the energy sector in Mainland China, India, Southeast Asia, Taiwan and Australia. Its diversified portfolio of generating assets uses a wide range of fuels including coal, gas, nuclear and renewable sources. CLP is one of the largest external investors in the Mainland's renewable energy sector. In India, it is the largest foreign investor in the power sector and the biggest independent power producer in wind energy, foreign or domestic. In Australia, its wholly-owned subsidiary EnergyAustralia is one of the largest integrated energy companies, providing gas and electricity to 2.6 million customers.

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), the Dow Jones Sustainability Asia Pacific 40 Index (DJSI Asia Pacific 40), Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index Series and MSCI Global Sustainability Index Series.

Photo captions:

(Photo 1)



Vice Mayor of Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture Government Mr Cheng Yunchuan (sixth from left) and CEO of CLP Holdings Mr Richard Lancaster (seventh from left) officiated the completion ceremony along with CLP Holdings' Independent Non-executive Directors Mrs Fanny Law (fifth from left) and Mr Vincent Cheng (fourth from right).

(Photo 2)



Officiating guests had a chance to try planting honeysuckle flowers on the solar farm.

(Photo 3)



The 50MW Direct Current capacity Xicun I Solar Power Station occupies a site of 86 hectares with a total of 204,600 solar panels installed (click [here](#) for a video on the project).

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