

20 March 2025

## **CLP Power's Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Drone Inspections Selected as Sandbox Pilot Project for Low-altitude Economy Trials**

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP Power) Managing Director Mr Joseph Law and his management team today (20 March) attended the launch event of the Low-altitude Economy Regulatory Sandbox organised by the Hong Kong SAR Government. CLP Power's use of "Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS)" drone operations to inspect overhead lines and towers is one of the first batch of pilot projects, which showcase the diversity, feasibility, and development potential of the low-altitude economy alongside initiatives of the government and industry.

Under the framework of the sandbox pilot project, Small Unmanned Aircraft (SUA) can fly beyond the visual line of sight of remote pilot in a controlled and safe manner within pre-defined flight routes. CLP Power's approved BVLOS pilot project will test different flight routes to evaluate the feasibility, safety, and effectiveness of drones for inspecting critical power supply facilities at various voltage levels in different terrains. The trials will be conducted by CLP Power's SUA team and are expected to lead to nearly a fourfold increase in the efficiency of inspecting overhead lines and towers.

CLP Power Managing Director Mr Joseph Law said, "The low-altitude economy is promoted by the government as an emerging industry and a key component for building a smart city. CLP Power has been introducing innovative technologies to enhance grid performance and resilience to the challenges of extreme weather. In support of government policies, we adopt BVLOS trials in our daily operations which will provide us with necessary data for strengthening innovative applications of drones in different business operations, implementing smart aerial inspections and further enhancing grid management and power supply reliability."

In recent years CLP Power has established a SUA team which comprises more than 60 remote pilots to inspect outdoor power supply facilities. The company is working with universities and industry suppliers to explore the integration of autonomous flight and artificial intelligence (AI) technologies to further enhance its capability to identify potential issues in power supply facilities. CLP Power is also exploring the expansion of SUA inspections to underground and submarine cables to strengthen

the management of key power supply facilities and maintain Hong Kong's world-class power services.

### **About CLP Power Hong Kong Limited**

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP Power) is the Hong Kong utility subsidiary wholly owned by CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia. CLP Power operates a vertically integrated electricity supply business in Hong Kong, and provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to more than six million people in its supply area.

### **Photo Captions:**

#### **Photo 1:**



The Chief Executive of the HKSAR Mr John Lee visits CLP Power's exhibition booth and experiences remote SUA inspections of overhead lines in Yuen Long.

**Photo 2:**



CLP Power Senior Director – Power Systems Mr Eric Cheung showcases the application of “Beyond Visual Line of Sight” drone operations.

**Photo 3:**



CLP Power’s use of “Beyond Visual Line of Sight” drone operations to inspect overhead lines and towers is one of the first batch of pilot projects.

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