



Smart Energy, Sustainable Future

## MEDIA RELEASE

1 July 2022

### **EMA Issues Second Request for Proposal for Electricity Imports** *RFP1 and RFP2 will be streamlined into a single RFP*

Decarbonising the power sector is an important pillar of Singapore's efforts to address climate change. Electricity imports is one of the "four switches" that Singapore is planning to use to decarbonise our power sector. It is one of the more viable options for Singapore in the near to medium-term as the technology for importing electricity, even over long distances and across seas, is mature and well-established.

2 To prepare for large-scale electricity imports, the Energy Market Authority (EMA) has also been working with various partners over the last few years on trials to import electricity. The trials allow EMA to assess and refine the technical and regulatory frameworks for importing electricity into Singapore. The Lao PDR-Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP) which involves the import of up to 100MW of electricity from Lao PDR to Singapore, via Thailand and Malaysia, commenced last week. This will serve as a pathfinder towards realising the broader ASEAN Power Grid vision of regional electricity trading.

#### **Launch of RFP2**

3 As part of EMA's plans to import up to 4 gigawatts (GW) of electricity by 2035 to decarbonise the energy sector, EMA had issued the first Request for Proposal (RFP1) in November 2021, to import around 1.2 GW of electricity from 2027 onwards. The submission window for the initial bids closed on 14 April 2022. EMA received 20 proposals to supply electricity from sources such as solar, wind, hydro and geothermal power from four countries – Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia and Thailand.

4 EMA issued the second RFP (RFP2) today. Under RFP2, participants may submit non-binding proposals as an Expression of Interest for preliminary discussions with EMA, before developing their proposals further for final submission. Interested participants may submit their proposals any time before **29 December 2023, 3pm**

(Singapore time) to EMA. EMA may also award Conditional Approvals (CAs) to viable and attractive proposals at any time during the RFP process.

5 Under RFP2, potential importers will have to demonstrate their supply reliability, credibility, track record, cost-competitiveness, and ability to supply and manage the carbon output of their power generation supply. Proposals for electricity supplied using coal-fired generation technologies will not be accepted. More details are available at <https://go.gov.sg/imports-rfp2>.

### **Streamlining of RFP1 and RFP2**

6 EMA has received requests from RFP1 participants for more time to develop their proposals. To accommodate these requests, EMA will be combining RFP1 with RFP2. Proposals that have been submitted under RFP1 will automatically be considered under RFP2, without having to be submitted afresh.

7 With this streamlined RFP process, Singapore remains on track to meet our imports target of 4GW by 2035. Interested importers are encouraged to submit their proposals to EMA for consideration, as soon as possible.

(Refer to [Annex](#) for more information on the Singapore Energy Transition.)

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### **About the Energy Market Authority**

The Energy Market Authority (EMA) is a statutory board under the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry. Through our work, we seek to forge a progressive energy landscape for sustained growth. We aim to ensure a reliable and secure energy supply, promote effective competition in the energy market and develop a dynamic energy sector in Singapore. Visit [www.ema.gov.sg](http://www.ema.gov.sg) for more information.

**FACTSHEET ON ADVANCING SINGAPORE'S ENERGY TRANSITION  
TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

Climate change is a global existential threat and Singapore is doing its part to reduce emissions for a more sustainable future. As announced by Minister for Finance Mr Lawrence Wong at Budget 2022, Singapore will raise our climate ambition to achieve net zero emissions by or around mid-century.

2 The power sector has a key part to play as it accounts for about 40% of Singapore's carbon emissions<sup>1</sup>. We need to significantly reduce the power sector's emissions, while ensuring that the power system remains secure, reliable and sustainable. Singapore is therefore harnessing four Switches – natural gas, solar, regional power grids and low-carbon alternatives – to transform its energy supply, while promoting energy efficiency to reduce demand.

**Four Supply Switches for Power Sector Decarbonisation**

**A. Natural Gas**

3 As Singapore transitions towards cleaner energy sources, reliable and sufficient energy sources are needed to ensure supply reliability. Natural gas will continue to be a dominant fuel for Singapore's electricity generation even as we scale up the other 3 Switches. EMA will continue to diversify our natural gas sources and work with the power generation companies to improve the efficiency of their power plants.

**B. Solar**

4 Solar remains the most promising renewable energy source in the near term for Singapore. Today, over 500 megawatt-peak (MWp) of solar has been installed<sup>2</sup> and we are on track to achieving our solar panel deployment target of at least 2 gigawatt-peak (GWp) by 2030 (equivalent to powering 350,000 households a year). Conventional rooftop solar has been complemented with innovative ways of deploying solar photovoltaic systems on spaces such as water bodies, temporary vacant land or sheltered walkways, making Singapore one of the most solar dense cities in the world. To manage the intermittent nature of solar and ensure grid resilience, we are planning to deploy at least 200 megawatts (MW) of energy storage systems (ESS) beyond 2025.

5 Nonetheless, there are still limitations to the amount of solar energy that we can harness due to Singapore's limited land area. Even as we work towards achieving our 2030 solar target of 2GWp, it will constitute only around 3% of the country's total electricity demand in 2030.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: National Climate Change Secretariat

<sup>2</sup> Figure accurate as of Q2 2021.

### **C. Regional Power Grids**

6 To overcome our land constraints, Singapore is tapping on regional power grids to access cleaner energy sources beyond its borders. Regional power grids can help accelerate the development of renewable energy projects in the region, bringing economic growth and increasing access to renewable energy. Electricity imports will also help us to diversify our energy sources away from natural gas and improve our energy resilience.

7 Singapore is planning to import up to 4 gigawatts (GW) of low-carbon electricity by 2035, which is expected to make up around 30% of Singapore's electricity supply in 2035. This will be done through a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Steps will also be taken to maintain our energy security, such as diversifying our import sources and ensuring back-up supply is in place to mitigate supply disruptions.

8 To pave the way for these electricity imports, EMA has been working with various partners on electricity import trials. These trials will allow us to assess and refine the technical and regulatory frameworks for importing electricity. They include a trial to import 100MW of electricity from Peninsular Malaysia, as well as a pilot to import 100MW of solar-generated electricity from Pulau Bulan, Indonesia. The Lao PDR-Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project (LTMS-PIP), which imports up to 100MW of renewable hydropower from Lao PDR to Singapore via Thailand and Malaysia via existing interconnections, also commenced on 23 June 2022.

### **D. Emerging Low-Carbon Technologies**

9 Singapore is exploring emerging low-carbon technologies such as hydrogen and carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) that can help reduce Singapore's carbon footprint in the longer term. While such technologies are nascent, EMA is taking active steps including investing in R&D through the Low-Carbon Energy Research (LCER) Funding Initiative to improve the technical and economic viability of implementing low-carbon technologies such as hydrogen and CCUS.

10 Advances in geothermal technology have also opened up the opportunity for us to consider the prospect of tapping on this energy source for power generation. For instance, EMA is working closely with Nanyang Technological University, and various ministries and agencies including the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the National Climate Change Secretariat to conduct studies to determine the geothermal resource potential in Singapore.

### **Promoting Energy Efficiency to Manage Demand**

11 Besides transforming the way we produce energy, managing our energy demand is also key to achieving a more sustainable future. With the economy recovering from the pandemic and as energy demand grows with increasing electrification, demand management will be a key pillar in supporting the energy transition. EMA will continue to encourage energy efficiency in the industry and households, and is concurrently developing other demand management initiatives.

Together, everyone will have to play their part by conserving energy and supporting the greener energy transition for a more sustainable future.