

---

*Minister of Electricity: The goal of achieving 250 megawatts of renewable energy in 2025 provides a wide scope for partnership with the private sector*

---

HE Dr. Abdul Hussain bin Ali Mirza, the Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs, today stressed that the government, under the leadership of HRH the Prime Minister, continues to place great importance on the development of the sustainable energy sector.

HE the Minister noted that the Government Executive Committee, led by HRH the Crown Prince, has a target to ensure five percent of Bahrain's electrical power supply, equivalent to 250 megawatts, is generated through solar energy sources by 2025. Accordingly, Bahrain is significantly expanding projects in the energy sector in line with the Kingdom's National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP).

HE the Minister highlighted that the most prominent of these projects is the establishment of a 100-megawatt solar power plant, which will allow individuals and institutions to install and use solar energy in their homes.

HE the Minister also noted that the government intends to sign an agreement to purchase electricity produced by independent power producers, a responsible committee in coordination with the Government Executive Committee is currently holding intensive meetings to discuss the technical aspects of the project.

HE the Minister highlighted that the Kingdom is currently implementing a Net Metering System that connects private homes to the government's electricity network. Steps are currently being taken to install such systems on the roofs of industrial companies and government buildings including schools, hospitals and health centres, to maximise the use of solar energy.

A "tender-based feed-in tariff" is also being prepared to attract private investors to develop large-scale renewable energy projects through a competitive procurement process. This initiative will be implemented in several phases, with the first phase to commence by the end of 2018.

The NREAP, consisting of seven initiatives, and the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP), which consists of 22 initiatives, were developed at the recommendation of the Government Executive Committee and approved by the Cabinet and the Council of Ministers. By 2025, these initiatives are anticipated to have increased energy efficiency by 6% and enabled Bahrain to draw 5% of its energy from renewable sources. By 2035, the Kingdom aims to generate 10% of its energy from renewable sources.

HE the Minister concluded by stating that on the completion of the net metering system pilot phase, the project will be rolled out further, increasing investment opportunities in the energy sector.

The Ministry is currently receiving applications and enquiries from subscribers, with further information available on the Ministry's website.