

“The power of a nation”



MEDIA RELEASE

29 August 2014

First wind energy project opens at Vailoa Aleipata

Samoa's first Wind Energy project officially opens today, Friday 29 August 2014 at Vailoa Aleipata.

This major milestone has been made possible through funding from the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) of the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) at US\$50 million forming part of the Pacific Partnership Fund. Samoa is one of the six Pacific island countries, to receive this funding, for installation of renewable energy schemes in the Pacific region.

The completion of the wind farm project is one of several renewable energy projects, undertaken by the Government of Samoa to promote the use of renewable energy sources to minimise reliance on imported fuel.

“The new wind farm delivered by Masdar and funded by the ADFD is a significant step forward in Samoa's transition to a more sustainable energy future. This has been possible thanks to the support of Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates, and their commitment to advancing sustainable development. Access to renewable energy is vital to our long-term economic development, even beyond the substantial gains realized by cutting our dependence on imported fuel” Prime Minister, Hon. Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi said.

The Aleipata Wind Farm Project includes two 55m high wind turbines, each producing 275 kW of electricity with total output of 1.5 million units of electricity per year, and will be connected directly to the EPC's electricity network.

“Electricity generated from this wind farm, will greatly contribute to EPC's efforts in achieving its ambitious target of 100% renewable by 2017 and maintaining sufficient generation capacity, in light of the high demand of electricity supply” EPC General Manager, Tologata Tile Lei'a Tuimalealiifano said.

The Aleipata Wind Farm Project is constructed by French contractor, Vergnet SA, under the guidance of Abu Dhabi's clean energy company, Masdar and the EPC.

END OF RELEASE

Electric Power Corporation

Level 5, TATTE Building

Sogi, APIA

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