

CASA-1000 ENTERS CONSTRUCTION PHASE WITH SIGNING OF EPC CONTRACTS FOR OVER 550 km OF HIGH VOLTAGE DIRECT CURRENT TRANSMISSION LINE IN AFGHANISTAN



Signing of one of three CASA-1000 HVDC Transmission Line Contracts between Mr. Amanullah Ghalib, President of DABS (seated right) and a representative of one of the Indian contractors in presence of His Excellency President of Afghanistan Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, H.E. Chief Executive Officer of Afghanistan Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, Minister of Energy Engineer Ali Ahmad Osmani, Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources for Tajikistan Mr. Jamshed Shoimzoda and other Afghan government and industry dignitaries.

Press Release by: Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS), Afghan National Electric Power Company

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English translation from original issued in Dari. Contents *in italics* are editorial notes by the translator:

CONTRACT OF HUGE REGIONAL PROJECT CASA-1000 AWARDED

Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat has signed three separate contracts with two different companies in Arg, the Presidential Palace, for the Regional Electricity Transmission Project CASA-1000. The contracts total value for transmission lines is 235.16 million USD. Engineer Amanullah Ghalib, Chief Executive Officer of DABS, signed the contracts for Central Asia South Asia Transmission Line - Afghanistan's Portion - with KEC and KPTL companies. *His Excellency* President of Afghanistan *Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, H.E.* Chief Executive Officer of Afghanistan *Dr. Abdullah Abdullah*, Minister of Energy *Engineer Ali Ahmad Osmani*, Members of Parliament of *Afghanistan* and Members of the Kabul Provincial Council also attended the award of contract ceremony.

Lot-1 of the project was signed with KPTL for a total value of 76.9 million USD. Lot-2 and Lot-3 were signed with KEC for separate values of 85.43 million USD, and 72.83 million USD respectively.

The total value of the Project transmission lines in Afghanistan is 235.16 million USD which is funded by a World Bank Grant. The total cost of CASA-1000 regional project is estimated at 1.2bn USD. Total length of the project *HVDC Line* is estimated to be 765 km while the length of the line inside Afghanistan is estimated at 563km. The transmission line of the project in Afghanistan begins in Sherkhan Bandar *border with Tajikistan* and ends in Torkham border *with Pakistan*. There are an estimated 600 villages, 23 districts and seven provinces along the corridor of the line [in Afghanistan]. The provinces along the corridor of the line are Konduz, Baghlan, Panjsher, Kapisa, Kabul, Laghman and Nangarhar. Communities that exist along the corridor of the line will benefit from the Community Support Program of the Project.

The Regional CASA-1000 Project is a great economic initiative in the region. Implementation of this project will result in peace and stability in Afghanistan and the region. This project will bring prosperity for peoples in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

The regional CASA-1000 Project from Central Asia to South Asia will not only have economic benefits for Afghanistan and Pakistan, but it will also have a positive impact on the security situation and political stability in these countries.

[end all]