

Press release

Renewable Energy Developers Visit Site of Saudi Arabia's First Utility-Scale Wind Farm in Al Jouf Region

- *Renewable Energy Project Development Office (REPDO) holds bidders conference with 25 qualified bidders for 400 MW wind power project in Dumat Al Jandal*
- *Bidders visit the site of the Kingdom's first utility-scale wind power project in Northern Saudi Arabia which marks completion of the National Renewable Energy Program's (NREP) round one tenders.*

Riyadh – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, September 28th 2017:

The Renewable Energy Project Development Office (REPDO), of the Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources (MEIM) in Saudi Arabia, hosted representatives of pre-qualified companies for a bidders' conference and an exclusive site visit to the Kingdom's first utility scale Wind Power plant site.

The attendees were representatives of the 25 shortlisted bidders, for the 400MW Dumat Al Jandal Wind Power project. Dumat al-Jandal Wind Power plant is the second of two utility scale projects in al-Jouf province, located in the Kingdom's Northern region. The project marks the completion of round one tenders of the National Renewable Energy Program (NREP). Bidding for the 400MW Wind Power project is set to close in January 2018. The received bids must meet all technical requirements outlined in the Request for Proposal (RFP), including a thirty percent local content target to support development of a domestic Renewable Energy value chain.

During the conference, REPDO outlined the technical criteria specified in the request for proposal (RFP) issued by the Ministry on August 29th, 2017. "We were delighted to host the pre-qualified bidders at the wind project site in Dumat al-Jandal, marking another step towards growing the Renewable Energy industry in Saudi Arabia. Both NREP round one projects in al-Jouf province; The Dumat al-Jandal Wind Power and Sakaka Solar PV projects, are set to provide a memorable economic boost to the area over the next few years through inwards investment, maintenance, distribution and supporting services" said Turki Al-Shehri, Head of the Renewable Energy Project Development Office.

"Providing a forum for investors and bidders to engage in open dialogue around NREP projects is a critical part of our procurement process. REPDO conducts extensive predevelopment work to assist bidding companies undertake their financial and technical evaluations with the goal of delivering the best competitive value to the market" continued Al-Shehri. The Dumat al-Jandal Wind Power and Sakaka Solar PV projects in al-Jouf, will be backed by 20 and 25-year power purchase agreements respectively.

More than 50 representatives of shortlisted companies visited the Sakaka Solar PV project site in May, during an exclusive bidders' conference, ahead of the submission deadline in October. The shortlisting of bidders will take place in November and the announcement of the winning Sakaka Solar PV bid will follow in January 2018.

The NREP targets 9.5 GW of Renewable Energy by 2023 in support of Vision 2030, with an interim target of 3.45 GW of Renewable Energy capacity by 2020 under the National Transformation Program (NTP).

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