

FACTSHEET

SINGAPORE, THE UNITED STATES AND VIETNAM FORM WORKING GROUP TO FACILITATE CROSS-BORDER ELECTRICITY TRADE

- The Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry, the United States (US) Department of Energy and Vietnam Ministry of Industry and Trade have established a Working Group today to strengthen investments in renewable energy projects in the region as well as study the development of a regional subsea cables framework to facilitate cross-border electricity trade.
- This is the first of such multilateral workstream among the three countries in promoting regional power interconnectivity, with the aim to establish the regulatory frameworks, infrastructure and a supportive ecosystem for greater cross-border electricity trade.
- The formation of this Working Group builds on the Vietnam-Singapore Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation signed in October 2022, and the ongoing Singapore-US Feasibility Study on Regional Energy Connectivity aimed at accelerating the development of the ASEAN Power Grid.
- Under the Working Group, Singapore, US and Vietnam will focus on knowledge sharing, capacity building and achieving consensus in the region on subsea cable issues, including but not limited to the following areas:
 - Exchange information on potential financial strategies and framework to improve bankability of electricity infrastructure and exports projects
 - Discuss ways to facilitate commercial arrangements, and involve interested commercial players to explore joint collaborations to develop electricity trading projects, where appropriate
 - Develop principles and framework to facilitate the application and permitting processes for subsea surveys and installation of cross-border subsea power cables
- The first Working Group meeting was held today alongside the IPEF Clean Economy Investor Forum. It was led by Second Minister for Trade and Industry Dr Tan See Leng, Vietnam Minister of Industry and Trade Nguyen Hong Dien and US Department of Energy Director (Office of Asian Affairs) Dr Kenneth Vincent.
- The meeting agreed to explore the involvement of IPEF members in the Working Group to jointly contribute to the advancement of regional energy

interconnectivity and explore financial mechanisms for electricity imports projects to the collective benefit of all.

- Minister Tan said, “The Working Group is part of the Singapore Government’s continued efforts to build a strong and competitive regional ASEAN Power Grid, which will contribute to a dynamic economy. This is a win-win collaboration that brings valuable foreign direct investment opportunities to the region while contributing to regional decarbonisation. We will also continue to partner and work closely with Vietnam and the US to co-create innovative solutions for this sector.”
- US Deputy Secretary of Energy Dave Turk said, “Collaboration with Singapore and Vietnam on regional power connection is crucial for advancing the ASEAN Power Grid and achieving our shared goals of energy security, resilience, and clean energy transitions. This Working Group builds on the Department of Energy’s ongoing partnership with Singapore through the Net Zero World Feasibility Study on Regional Energy Connectivity in Southeast Asia, which will detail the benefits of regional interconnection.”
- Minister Nguyen Hong Dien said, “Vietnam places great importance on enhancing grid interconnectivity in ASEAN and appreciates the cooperation and assistance from the United States and related parties. Synergy between Vietnam and Singapore in this area will not only bring substantial benefits to both countries but also contribute to achieving the goal of power grid interconnection within ASEAN. The working group plays a crucial role in concretising the cooperative plan to promote cross-border electricity trade between Vietnam and Singapore.”

.

Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry
US Department of Energy
Vietnam Ministry of Industry and Trade

6 June 2024