Electricity generation sofia

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NEK EAD owns 31 hydro power plants (HPPs and PSHPPs) with total installed capacities of 2737 MW. The main electricity generation is provided by hydro power plants grouped in four hydro power cascades: Belmeken - Sestrimo - Chaira Hydro Power Complex, Batak Cascade, Dospat-Vacha Cascade and Arda Cascade.

NEK EAD is a major player in the electricity market of Bulgaria guaranteeing security of supplies. The Company carries out wholesale trade on the non-regulated market through the segments of IBEX.

NEK as SoLR has the obligation to supply electricity to final customers connected to the transmission grid system if such customers have not switched to another electricity trader or the chosen trader fails to deliver for reasons beyond the customer.

The construction of Bulgaria"s largest solar power plant is due to be completed by spring 2023. The facility will generate green electricity with a peak capacity of 124 MW. The project for another segment, of 50 MW, is under development.

As of late November, there was an overall 1.03 GW in active photovoltaic facilities in the country, according to a statement from the contractor, Sunotec, which cited data from an unofficial renewables registry.

The biggest ones, at 50 MW each in connection capacity, are called Pobeda and Karadzhalovo, the list shows. The first one is located in Aytos near the Black Sea Coast. The latter, near Plovdiv, is operated by Austria-based Enery. Separately, SENS LSG has just finished a solar power plant of 66 MW in peak capacity in Dalgo Pole in the Plovdiv area.

It means the project that is underway is set to add up to 12% to Bulgaria’s installed solar power capacity. The investor, Eurohold, bought ?EZ’s assets in the country in 2019.

Sunotec is a domestic company, but with a second headquarters in Germany. It said its employees started the works on the ground-mounted PV facility in September.

The location is in the Verila mountain range near Dupnitsa (Dupnica), a town south of capital Sofia. Sunotec stressed that the nature of the terrain is the greatest challenge. The company is tasked with engineering, project management, procurement and construction of the facility with 220,230 modules.

“The location of the solar power plant at an altitude between 700 and 1,000 meters above sea level, with slopes as steep as 18 degrees, is one of the most adventurous and unique in Europe. The lower temperatures caused by the high altitude contribute to the generation of additional power. However, this also

means that we have to adapt the machinery as well as the sequence of implementation to the challenging topography of the site,” said Sunotec’s Country Manager Valentin Gospodinov.

The Verila project, in the vicinity of the village of Kraynitsi, spans 130 hectares. The investment is worth more than EUR 100 million, according to earlier announcements.

Just last week, the Municipal Council of Dupnitsa agreed to sign a preliminary contract with Verila Solar Park 2 for a photovoltaic plant on a 236-hectare site on Kraynitsi territory. Eurohold said it would install 50 MW and that the project is scheduled to be completed in 2024. It added that it is building two electricity substations and that they would be donated to the country’s Electricity System Operator (ESO).