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### **LSS@MEntARI Competitive Bidding Process Begins**

The Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, through the Energy Commission (**EC**), will hold a competitive bidding process for the development of large-scale solar photovoltaic power plants (**LSS**) under the Large-Scale Solar by Malaysian Electricity Industry to Attract RE Investment Programme (**LSS@MEntARI Programme**) announced recently. The quota offered is 1,000 MWac, making it the biggest quota offered under any of the LSS programmes and double the quota offered for the previous LSS3 programme. The LSS@MEntARI Programme aims to generate investments amounting to RM4 billion as a move by the government to revive and stimulate the economy that has been affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.

The following are some key features of the LSS@MEntARI Programme:

<b>Target capacity</b>	1,000 MWac divided into two packages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Package 1 – 500 MWac</li> <li>• Package 2 – 500 MWac</li> </ul>
<b>Capacity range per project</b>	Package 1 – between 10 MWac up to 29.99 MWac Package 2 – between 30 MWac up to 50 MWac
<b>Availability of Request for Proposal document</b>	Upon payment of RM2,000 until 5pm on 12 June 2020 at the EC's website ( <a href="http://www.st.gov.my">www.st.gov.my</a> )
<b>Bid period and deadline</b>	Three months, with bids to be submitted by 5pm on 2 September 2020
<b>Qualified bidders</b>	100% locally owned incorporated or registered companies or a company listed on Bursa Malaysia which has at least 75% local shareholding

<b>Bid submission</b>	A bidder may submit up to three bids
<b>Expected commercial operation date</b>	By 31 December 2023

It will be interesting to see how the bid prices submitted under the LSS@MEnTARI Programme compare with the prices submitted for the LSS3 Programme. Then, the lowest bid had a startlingly low price of 17.77 sen/kWh while 58 sen/kWh was the highest price submitted.

The information above is subject to further changes or clarifications in the official request for proposal document issued by the EC. A copy of the notice released by EC can be viewed [here](#) while a copy of the procedure to purchase the Request for Proposal document can be viewed [here](#).

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