
DATE: 25 March 2014
PUBLICATION: Muscat Daily
LANGUAGE: English
SECTION: Business

Al Batinah Power's Sohar 2 power plant inaugurated

by Cathal McElroy on Mar 25, 2014



Picture for illustrative purposes.

Al Batinah Power's Sohar 2 power plant has been officially inaugurated by H E Mohammed al Tobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs.

Sohar 2 and Barka 3, which is owned by Al Suwadi Power, are twin facilities with 744MW power generation capacity each. Together both plants represent a total investment of \$1.7bn, and total installed capacity of 1,488MW, accounting for about 27% of Oman's main interconnected system's (MIS) total installed capacity of approximately 5,589MW.

The Barka 3 plant is scheduled to be inaugurated on Wednesday.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mohammed al Mahrooqi, chairman of Public Authority for Electricity and Water (PAEW), was quoted in *Muscat Daily* as saying: "The Sohar 2 power plant, and its twin facility Barka 3, are the outcome of the execution of the visionary policy of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said towards developing and enhancing the provision of electricity for all citizens and residents in all the governorates of Oman.

"The launch of these projects is in line with the sultanate's strategy which aims at increasing local and foreign investments in electricity generation and at establishing a firm economic foundation that relies on private sector participation."



Willem Van Twembeke, CEO and president of GDF Suez Energy International, added: "Today GDF Suez is the region's leading private developer of power and water projects. Oman holds a very special place at GDF SUEZ. Not just for the business that we operate here, but for the long relationship and for the deep respect and values that we share with our stakeholders in Oman."

GDF Suez is the biggest shareholder in Al Batinah Power and Al Suwadi Power.

The Sohar 2 project was successfully completed and the plant commenced full commercial operation on April 3, 2013.

The initial public offerings (IPOs) of Al Batinah Power and Al Suwadi Power are expected to open in May 2014 and will be completed before Ramadan. The shareholders of both companies will offload 35 per cent of their stake in the IPOs. However, the size of both the IPOs has not been disclosed so far.

The event was attended by Twembeke, officials from PAEW, government officials and senior representatives of the shareholders and other stakeholders of Al Batinah Power. The ceremony also marked the first successful year of operations of the company.

http://www.constructionweekonline.com/article-27266-al-batinah-powers-sohar-2-power-plant-inaugurated/#.U0-x_VWSxIw

DATE: 25 March 2014
PUBLICATION: Oman Daily Observer
LANGUAGE: English
SECTION: Business

Sohar 2 power plant opens

Tuesday 25th, March 2014



By A Staff Reporter — MUSCAT — Al Batinah Power, which owns the Sohar 2 power plant, was officially inaugurated yesterday. The ceremony also celebrated the first successful year of operations of the power company. Together with its twin facility Barka 3, owned by Al Suwadi Power, which will be inaugurated

tomorrow, they represent a total investment of \$1.7 billion, and a total installed capacity of 1488 MW, accounting for about 27 per cent of Oman's MIS total installed capacity of approximately 5,589 MW. The inauguration of the Sohar 2 power plant was graced by Mohammed bin Salim al Tobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs, senior representatives of the government from the Batinah and Public Authority for Electricity and Water (PAEW).

Mohammed bin Abdullah al Mahrooqi, Chairman of PAEW, said: "The Sohar 2 power plant, and its twin facility Barka 3, are the outcome of the execution of the visionary policy of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos towards developing and enhancing the provision of electricity for all citizens and residents in all the governorates of Oman. "The launch of these projects is in line with the Sultanate's strategy which aims at increasing local and foreign investments in electricity generation and at establishing a firm economic foundation that relies on private sector participation." The inauguration ceremony was also attended by Willem Van Twembeke, CEO and President of GDF SUEZ Energy International.

Speaking on the occasion, Van Twembeke said: "GDF SUEZ commissioned its first pioneering independent power project in Oman in 1996, which marked the start of our group's successful development in the GCC. Today, we are the region's leading private developer of power and water projects. Oman holds a very special place at GDF SUEZ. Not just for the business that we operate here, but for the long relationship and for the deep respect and values that we share with our stakeholders in the Sultanate." Speaking on the occasion, Al Tobi said that the production of electricity will meet the requirements of development in various aspects, especially the growing economic, tourism and urban aspects in the Governorate of North Al Batinah, particularly the wilayats of Sohar and Liwa, as well that all these investments will achieve high return in the light of the growing development that will be invested again into the economy.





On the efforts of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Affairs to address the causes of pollution in the Sohar Industrial Port, the minister said that the technology used in the station and in various factories in the Sohar industrial port is sophisticated technology and from several States have a long tradition in this aspect, in particular Japan and we can call this technology is environmentally friendly and they in general use gas, saying that the Ministry's efforts in this aspect are various and the level of emissions has significantly retreated and the ministry is quite satisfied with the companies and factories in Sohar Industrial Port and Free Zone. The event was well attended by senior officials from the government and senior management representatives of the anchor promoters of both the companies — GDF SUEZ of France; Suhail Bahwan Group and the Public Authority for Social Insurance (PASI) of Oman, and Sojitz Corporation and Shikoku Electric Power Co, Inc of Japan.

The RO 308 million electricity generation station 2 project was successfully completed and the plant commenced full commercial operation on schedule on April 3, 2013. The EPC contractors were Siemens AG of Germany & GS Engineering and Construction Corporation of Korea. Since the plant was commissioned, it has been a very dependable power provider for the people and the economy of Oman. Sohar 2 achieved an impressive reliability over 2013 of 99.9 per cent without any Lost Time Accidents or environmental incidents. Shareholder GDF SUEZ ranks among the world's leading energy companies. Present in some 70 countries, GDF SUEZ develops its three core businesses (electricity, natural gas, and energy & environmental services) around a model based on responsible growth to provide essential services to its customers every day. The Group employs around 150,000 people worldwide and achieved revenues of €81.3 billion in 2013.

In the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, GDF SUEZ has a direct equity interest in 27,000 MW of power capacity and almost 5.3 million m³/day of desalination capacity in operation and under construction. It is the GCC's leading independent power operator and desalinated water producer, with almost 20 years of experience. In Oman, GDF SUEZ has direct and indirect ownership interest in 6 of the 11 contracted projects by the Oman Power & Water Procurement Co in the Main Interconnected System.

(With ONA inputs)

<http://main.omanobserver.om/?p=67365>

DATE: 25 March 2014
PUBLICATION: Times of Oman
LANGUAGE: English
SECTION: Business

Sohar plant adds to power output across Oman

BY ELHAM POURMOHAMMADI | MARCH 25, 2014 , 8 : 31 AM GST



The inauguration ceremony was attended by Mohammed bin Salim bin Said Al Tobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs, Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Mahrooqi, Chairman of PAEW, Willem Van Twembeke, CEO and President of GDF SUEZ, Jurgen De Vyt, CEO of Al Batinah Power, Przemek Lupa, CEO of Al Suwadi Power, and a number of other officials. Photo - Times of Oman

Sohar: The Sohar 2 Power Plant, promoted by Al Batinah Power, was officially inaugurated on Monday in line with the government's efforts to increase the supply of high-quality electricity across Oman.



The plant is located about 200 kilometres northwest of Muscat within the Sohar Industrial Port area. Together with its twin facility Barka 3, owned by Al Suwadi Power, these represent a total investment of \$1.7 billion, and a total installed capacity of 1,488 MW. This accounts for about 27 per cent of Oman's total installed capacity in the Main Interconnected System, which is about 5,589MW. The Barka 3 Power Plant will be inaugurated on Wednesday.

GDF SUEZ Energy International was awarded the Barka Phase 3 and Sohar Phase 2 projects in 2010.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Mohammed bin Salim bin Said Al Tobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs, Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Mahrooqi, Chairman of the Public Authority for Electricity and Water (PAEW), Willem Van Twembeke, CEO and President of GDF SUEZ, Jurgen De Vyt, CEO of Al Batinah Power, Przemek Lupa, CEO of Al Suwadi Power, and a number of other officials.

With the state-of-the-art technology used in the Sohar plant, the energy for electricity generation is obtained from the combustion of natural gas.

The Sohar 2 project was successfully completed and the plant commenced full commercial operation on schedule on April 3, 2013. The engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractors were Siemens AG of Germany and GS Engineering and Construction Corporation of Korea.

Since the plant was commissioned, it has been a very dependable power provider for the people and the economy of Oman. Sohar 2 achieved an impressive reliability over 2013 of 99.9 per cent without any Lost Time Accidents or environmental incidents.

Addressing the ceremony, Al Mahrooqi said, "The launch of these projects is in line with the Sultanate's strategy which aims at increasing local and foreign investments in electricity generation and at establishing a firm economic foundation that relies on private sector participation."

Twembeke described the Sohar Port and Freezone as one of Oman's economic strongholds and a driver of growth and prosperity for this region and for the country.

"Our group is proud to have been part of that process," he said, adding that currently, GDF SUEZ has ownership stake in six of the eleven projects contracted by the Oman Power and Water Procurement Company in the country's Main Interconnected System.



Speaking to the Times of Oman on the sidelines of the ceremony, the CEO and president of GDF SUEZ said that the project has been a very efficient one and the company is interested in enhancing its cooperation with the Sultanate in the water and electricity sectors.

"Oman is a very special country for us. It was one of the first countries where we started our international development many years ago. We have been in Oman since 1996," he said.

The CEO of Al Batinah Power said that the inauguration of the plant will add to employment opportunities for locals.

"The (number of) direct (Omani) people employed is in the region of 40 per plant," Vyt told the Times of Oman. "We will be transformed into a listed company. This will create additional jobs in our companies." He said that one of the distinctive features of the Sohar plant is its "high availability", meaning that "we need and use a low amount of maintenance hours in this plant".

Another important point is the thermodynamic efficiency of the plant which is more than 57 per cent, Vyt added.

<http://www.timesofoman.com/News/31577/Article-Sohar-plant-adds-to-power-output-across-Oman>

DATE: 24 March 2014
PUBLICATION: Muscat Daily
LANGUAGE: English
SECTION: Business

SOHAR 2 POWER PLANT OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED



H E Mohammed al Tobi (second left) unveils the plaque of the inaugural ceremony for the Sohar 2 power plant on Monday
Muscat Daily staff writer

March 24, 2014

MUSCAT -

Al Batinah Power's Sohar 2 power plant was officially inaugurated by H E Mohammed al Tobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs, on Monday in Sohar.

The event was also attended by Willem Van Twembeke, CEO and president of GDF Suez Energy International, officials from Public Authority for Electricity and Water (PAEW), government officials and senior representatives of the shareholders and other stakeholders of Al Batinah Power. The ceremony also marked the first successful year of operations of the company.



Sohar 2 and Barka 3, which is owned by Al Suwadi Power, are twin facilities with 744MW power generation capacity each. Together both plants represent a total investment of US\$1.7bn, and total installed capacity of 1,488MW, accounting for about 27 per cent of Oman's main interconnected system's (MIS) total installed capacity of approximately 5,589MW. The Barka 3 plant is scheduled to be inaugurated on Wednesday.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mohammed al Mahrooqi, chairman of PAEW, said, "The Sohar 2 power plant, and its twin facility Barka 3, are the outcome of the execution of the visionary policy of His Majesty Sultan

Qaboos bin Said towards developing and enhancing the provision of electricity for all citizens and residents in all the governorates of Oman. The launch of these projects is in line with the sultanate's strategy which aims at increasing local and foreign investments in electricity generation and at establishing a firm economic foundation that relies on private sector participation."

Twembeke, said, "Today GDF Suez is the region's leading private developer of power and water projects. Oman holds a very special place at GDF SUEZ. Not just for the business that we operate here, but for the long relationship and for the deep respect and values that we share with our stakeholders in Oman."

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<http://www.muscatdaily.com/Archive/Business/Sohar-2-power-plant-officially-inaugurated-312h>

DATE: 24 March 2014
PUBLICATION: Oman News Agency
LANGUAGE: English

Inauguration of Sohar Station 2 for Electricity Generation

Sohar, Mar 24 (ONA) ----The Public Authority for Electricity and Water (PAEW) and Al Batinah Power Company inaugurated today the RO 308 million electricity generation station 2 in the Wilayat of Sohar under the patronage of Mohammed bin Salim al- Toobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs, in the presence of a number of ministers, undersecretaries and ambassadors of friendly states.

The inauguration ceremony started with a speech by Mohammed bin Abdullah al-Mahrooqi, Chairman of PAEW, saying that Sohar Station (2) is one of the strategic projects in the electricity production in the country and comes in implementation of the Government policy to develop and improve the services of providing electricity to all citizens and residents of all governorates of the Sultanate.

The patron of the ceremony unveiled a commemorative plaque of Sohar Station (2) and was briefed on the building of the station and its facilities.

Mohammed bin Salim al-Toobi, Minister of Environment and Climate Affairs said in a statement after the inauguration of the station that this project is one of the major projects of power plants in the Sultanate, where a number of investors from inside and outside the Sultanate take part in the project.

He added that the production of electricity will meet the requirements of development in various aspects, especially the growing economic, tourism and urban aspects in the Governorate of North Al Batinah, particularly the Wilayats of Sohar and Liwa, as well that all these investments will achieve high return in the light of the growing development that will be invested again into the economy.

On the efforts of the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Affairs to address the causes of pollution in the Sohar industrial port, the Minister said that the technology used in the station and in various factories in the Sohar industrial port is sophisticated technology and from several States have a long tradition in this aspect, in particular Japan and we can call this technology is



environmentally friendly and they in general use gas, saying that the Ministry's efforts in this aspect are various and the level of emissions has significantly retreated and the ministry is quite satisfied with the companies and factories in Sohar Industrial Port and Free Zone.

It is worth mentioning that the full operation of the station began in April 2013 with an output capacity of 744 MW of electricity.

The station employs Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) technology, which consists of two gas turbines, each combined with a heat recovery steam generator (HRSG), and one steam turbine. Thanks to these new technologies, Sohar Station 2 is one of the best stations in electricity generation at the huge commercial level in the Sultanate.

---Ends/MN/FS

http://www.omannews.gov.om/ona/english/newsDetails_inc.jsp?newsID=194350