



MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

PRESS STATEMENT

12th July 2021

GOVERNMENT BOOSTS POWER SUPPLY FOR THE TESO AND KARAMOJA REGIONS

“The newly completed 132kV Opuyo-Moroto transmission powerline to improve power capacity and reliability in the Karamoja region”

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), through its Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Limited (UETCL) has achieved yet another milestone after completing the 132kV Opuyo - Moroto transmission powerline that was energized on Friday, 9th July 2021. The 132kV transmission line covers 162 km of double circuit, traversing the districts of Soroti, Amuria, Katakwi, Napak and Moroto and comes along with a new substation at Moroto.

This achievement will support the development of major industries as well as increase electricity demand in the area. The region already has the Tororo cement and Mable factories in Moroto district

The project which was funded by the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) at a cost of USD 103 million also financed the construction of distribution powerlines implemented by the Rural Electrification Programme (REP). The distribution powerlines included 709.4km of a distribution network at 33kV, over 159 km of Low Voltage (LV) network, installation of 104 distribution transformers and electricity connections of 2,412 consumers in the districts of Soroti, Moroto, Amudat, Nakapiririt, Nabilatuk, Napak, Kotido, Kaboong, Abim, and Kitgum.

Both the transmission and distribution components of the project have paid attention to the environmental and social safeguards aspects, including the compensation of the project affected persons (PAPS). The government of Uganda has spent UGX 3,215,401,650 on acquiring the corridor for the transmission line while the community provided free right of way corridor for the distribution component.

We commend the community for allowing the project to pass through their land and assure them that this project will come with a lot of benefits towards social-economic development of the areas it traverses. We ask the region to take advantage of the increased capacity of power supply brought about by this project. The power should not only be used for lighting but also to support the much needed small, medium and large industries to spur development.

Government appeals to communities to always embrace Government infrastructure projects and avoid unnecessarily blocking them from passing through their land. We have had challenges most notably in Tororo districts where Government projects have been blocked for years. We can't demand for Government services and when an opportunity presents itself, we block projects intended to support good service delivery and for the benefit of the entire country. We also appeal to the general public to stay away from all power lines and report any vandals to the authorities.

We commend UETCL and REP teams for an outstanding job well done; with support from the Consultant Ghods Niroo Engineering Company. We also commend the contractors Fara Gostar Bistoon company for the transmission component and Nanjing Daji Steel Tower Manufacturing Company Limited for the distribution component.

For more information on the transmission project, you may reach UETCL on Tel: 0414233433/4 or email them on transco@uetcl.com or www.uetcl.com . twitter: @uetcl.

For the distribution component and other aspects on the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), you may reach us on Tel: 031344414 or email us at psmemd@energy.go.ug or www.energyandminerals.go.ug

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PERMANENT SECRETARY