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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **MALAYSIA TACKLES FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY HEADS-ON**

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Subang Jaya, 3 September 2013 --- Seeking to further address issues and challenges in ensuring sustainable energy supply and services in Malaysia, the Fifth National Energy Forum held today continued to gather high profile speakers from the energy industry locally and internationally.

Bearing the theme ‘Delivering a Sustainable Energy Future for Malaysia – Taking on Tomorrow’s Challenges Today’, the forum is a joint collaboration between the Energy Commission (Suruhanjaya Tenaga – ST), Malaysian Gas Association (MGA) and the Energy Council of Malaysia (ECOM). The event is supported by Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) and the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Malaysia.

Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Jonity Ongkili, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water, in his Official Opening and Address highlighted the challenges in fuel supply and pricing, particularly in balancing its security and affordability.

Maximus said; “Critical issues surrounding energy security, climate change, energy prices, subsidy rationalization, reliability and intermittency of Renewable Energy (RE) plants and initiatives for Energy Efficiency and Demand-Side Management will be high on all government’s agenda for energy sustainability”.

The Government has enunciated a comprehensive subsidy rationalization programme, aimed at correcting the price distortion and gradually bringing the price levels to market pricing in line with the affordability of the people.

“The Incentive-Based Regulation (IBR) framework for electricity tariff setting will commence in January 2014, designed to drive efficiency, reduce costs and improve service levels of the utility, with incentives for exceeding performance targets and penalties for non-performance”; he added.

The Minister also launched ST’s Peninsular Malaysia Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) Outlook 2013 publication, detailing the electricity supply infrastructure requirement and development prospect for the next 10 years. The ESI Outlook presents current and future development of generation and transmission capacity in meeting the future growth, with chapters focusing on the Demand Forecast, Competitive Bidding and Electricity Tariff Setting Mechanism, among others.

The Energy Forum is now considered as an important annual gathering of the country’s energy fraternity, where experts and industry players have taken the opportunity to share with participants their invaluable views, as well as insights on major issues affecting Malaysia’s energy scene. It is also a strategic platform for the Government and policy makers to share new developments, initiatives, and policies impacting Malaysia’s energy industry.

Keynote presenters included Senator Datuk Seri Idris Jala, Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department, Dr Ralph Samuelson, Vice President, Asia Pacific Energy Research Centre (ASPERC) and H.E. Mr. Lee Jae Hoon, President, Association of Future Strategy Forum on Energy and Resources, Korea, former Vice Minister for Trade and Energy, Ministry of Knowledge Economy, Republic of Korea who joined various industry players in giving their insights and valuable commentaries.

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