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Petronas inks LNG supply pact with Hokkaido Electric

KUALA LUMPUR — Petroleum Nasional Bhd (Petronas) through its unit, Malaysia LNG Sdn Bhd (MLNG), signed a 10-year liquefied natural gas (LNG) supply agreement with Hokkaido Electric Power Co (HKE) on March 2.

HKE is a Japanese utility company responsible for the supply of electricity to the Hokkaido Prefecture.

Under the terms of the agreement, MLNG would deliver up to 130,000 tonnes of LNG per year to HKE.

In a statement yesterday, MLNG chairman Datuk Mohd Anuar Taib, said the partnership with HKE demonstrated Petronas' commitment to providing long-term LNG solutions to its customers.

"We would like to thank HKE for the trust placed in Petronas for a secure and reliable supply of this cleaner energy source, and we look forward to building upon this relationship into the future," he said.

The signing ceremony was held in Kuala Lumpur. Also present was HKE executive vice president Yutaka Fujii.

MLNG operates the Petronas LNG Complex in Bintulu, Sarawak, one of the world's largest LNG single site complex. The nine-train facility has a combined annual production capacity of about 30 million tonnes.

Separately in Serdang, Petronas Dagangan Bhd said it has allocated RM2.2 million this year to install its electric car charging points, ChargeEV, at 66 stations situated along major highways.

Managing director and chief executive officer Mohd Ibrahimuddin Mohd Yunus said these were in addition to the 10 Petronas stations that was already

installed with the ChargeEV points, including the Petronas NKVE Damansara station and Petronas Elite Bukit Jelutong station.

"We will install one charging point first before expanding it based on demand. We have identified the 66 Petronas stations at prominent areas where customers are likely to frequent and use the facilities to charge their vehicles," he told reporters after the launch of the ChargeEV point by Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Maximus Ongkili at the Petronas Solaris Serdang station here yesterday.

Mohd Ibrahimuddin said the ChargeEV installation was in collaboration with GreenTech Malaysia to promote electric vehicle ownership in Malaysia. The service, for now, would be available free of charge.

"We have not identified for how long the service will be offered for free. The initiative, at the moment, is basically to encourage the use of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles," he added.

Ongkili said to-date, there are 1,200 electric buses, cars, motorcycles and bicycles on Malaysian roads.

"Although the number is small, the government is confident with a conducive policy in place coupled with technological advancement, the electric vehicle industry would be able to assist the development of electric vehicles in Malaysia in future," he added.

The government has targeted to set up 25,000 charging points nationwide by 2030.

Currently, there are 155 ChargeEV points and this number would be increased to 300 by year-end.

— Bernama

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(From left) Mohd Ibrahimnuddin, Ongkili and the ministry's deputy secretary general (energy and green technology) Badriyah Abd Malek using the ChargeEV station. — Picture by Petronas Dagangan