

26 March 2014



## Power Plant of Al Suwadi Power inaugurated.

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**The Barka 3 power plant (owned by Al Suwadi Power) was officially inaugurated on 26 March 2014 by H.E. Ahmad bin Abdallah bin Mohamed Al Shehhi, Minister of Regional Municipalities and Water Resources. The event was also attended by Mr. Willem Van Twembeke, CEO & President of GDF SUEZ Energy International, officials from the Government of Oman and senior representatives of the anchor shareholders and other stakeholders of the company.**

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Muscat, 26 March 2014. The Barka 3 power plant owned by Al Suwadi Power was officially inaugurated today. The ceremony also celebrated the first successful year of operations of the power company. Together with its twin facility Sohar 2, owned by Al Batinah Power, which was inaugurated on 24 March, they represent a total investment of USD 1.7Billion, and a total installed capacity of 1488 MW, accounting for about 27% of Oman's MIS total installed capacity of approximately 5589MW.

The inauguration of the Barka 3 power plant was graced by H.E. Ahmad bin Abdallah bin Mohamed Al Shehhi, Minister of Regional Municipalities, senior representatives of the regional Government and PAEW.

Speaking on behalf of The Public Authority of Electricity and Water (PAEW), His Excellency Mohammed bin Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Chairman of PAEW said,, "The Barka 3 power plant, and its twin facility Sohar 2, 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."

The inauguration ceremony was also attended by Mr. Willem Van Twembeke, CEO & President of GDF SUEZ Energy International. Speaking on the occasion. Mr. 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."

The event was well attended by senior officials from the Government of Oman, 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 Barka 3 project was successfully completed and the plant commenced full commercial operation on schedule on 4 April 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. Barka 3 achieved an impressive reliability over 2013 of 99.73% without any environmental incidents, and the operations and maintenance teams on site have demonstrated 972 days without Lost Time Accident as at end February 2014.

### **About GDF SUEZ**

The GDF SUEZ Group 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 m<sup>3</sup>/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.

[www.gdfsuez.com](http://www.gdfsuez.com)

### **About Suhail Bahwan Group**

From a small trading enterprise at Muttrah in 1965, the Suhail Bahwan Group has grown to become a multibillion-dollar corporate enterprise with over 40 companies in the Sultanate of Oman and across the Gulf Region, North Africa and South Asia, guided by the vision and the wisdom of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Said. As one of the largest and most professionally managed business organizations in the Middle East, the Group's diversified businesses touch almost every aspect of people's lives - from automobiles, electronics, energy, computers, travel, lifestyle and healthcare to agriculture, construction, engineering, information technology, manufacturing, oil and gas services and telecommunications – thus helping customers realize their dreams and aspirations to lead a quality life. With an inspired workforce of over 15,000 employees, the Suhail Bahwan Group believes that understanding and anticipating customer needs is crucial to its continued success, and strives to provide customers with world-class products and services at the best value for money. As a responsible corporate citizen and a pioneering Omani enterprise, the Suhail Bahwan Group is deeply committed to nation building and corporate social responsibility.

[www.suhailbahwangroup.com](http://www.suhailbahwangroup.com)

### **About Sojitz Corporation**

Sojitz is a general trading company created through the merger of Nichimen Corporation and Nissho Iwai Corporation, both of which have over a century of trading history. Sojitz conducts its operations in around 50 countries through roughly 500 consolidated subsidiaries and affiliated companies in Japan and overseas. Sojitz' business activities are wide-ranging, covering machinery, energy and metal, chemicals, and consumer lifestyle-related business. The IPP business is one of the focused business fields explicitly mentioned in Sojitz's 'Mid-Term Management Plan 2014'. Sojitz has been involved in IPP projects in several countries and is now strengthening its IPP business especially in the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

[www.sojitz.com](http://www.sojitz.com)

### **About Shikoku Electric Power Co., Inc. (YONDEN)**

Shikoku Electric Power Co., Inc. (YONDEN) is an electric power utility that carries out the integrated process of generating, transmitting, distributing, and selling electricity to 4 million people in the Shikoku region, Japan. YONDEN employs more than 4,700 people and has achieved consolidated operating revenues of USD 6 billion from the electricity sales of 28 billion kWh in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2013. Since its establishment in 1951, YONDEN has contributed to regional development

through the stable supply of low-cost, high-quality electricity by establishing a balanced energy mix that combines nuclear, coal, oil, gas, hydro, solar, and wind power, totaling approximately 7,000MW (net and gross) in generating capacity at 65 power stations.

### **About Public Authority for Social Insurance (PASI)**

The Public Authority for Social Insurance (PASI) is a Government Entity established by Royal Decree 72/91. PASI manages a defined benefit Pension scheme for Omani nationals employed in the private sector. PASI has been a pioneer in participating in Power and Utility Companies in Oman. Power plants and infrastructure projects are viewed by PASI as steady and secure investments and a national responsibility.

[www.taminat.com](http://www.taminat.com)

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