

# **Press Release**

# GE substations to strengthen power infrastructure in Southern Region of Saudi Arabia

- GE to deliver 4 new 132kv substations, two in Asir region, another two in Jazan region apart from upgrading the four existing 132kv substations in southern operating area of Saudi Electricity Company (SEC).
- With a total installed capacity of 1,933 MVA, the substations support goals of Saudi National Vision 2030 to drive reliable supply of electricity.

**Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; April 03, 2017:** National Grid SA entered a contract with GE (NYSE: <u>GE</u>) to support the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in meeting the growing demand for electricity by supplying four new electricity substations on a turnkey basis and upgrade four others, in Southern Region

With a total capacity of 1,933 MVA, the substations will enable power delivery to up to 25,000 homes as well as different industries in the Southern Region. They will help to strengthen the electricity infrastructure which is a key requirement to improve lives of people in the Southern Region and also foster economic growth, as defined by the goals of the ambitious National Transformation Program (NTP) and the broader Saudi Vision 2030.

Hisham Al Bahkali, GE's President & CEO for Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, said: "Ensuring the delivery of reliable and efficient power is a key focus area of the Saudi National Vision 2030, which aims to drive all-round economic growth. The contract for GE to provide four substations on a turnkey basis and to upgrade four other existing substations will help strengthen the electricity grid that serves the Southern Region of the Kingdom. It will not only deliver more electricity to more homes in the region but also support the focus on industrialization and economic diversification."

Mohammed Mohaisen, President & CEO for GE Energy Connections' Grid Solutions business in the Middle East, North Africa and Turkey, added: "This is a milestone agreement as the substations delivered by GE will support SEC in providing reliable power to the homes and industries in the Baish region. Grid Solutions' technology is redefining the conventional approaches to building and upkeep of the grid through advanced products and services that enable more resilient, efficient and reliable power systems. From the power plant to the power consumer, our ability to optimize flexibility and efficiency of the power grid will contribute to boosting the grid infrastructure of the Kingdom."

Abdulaziz Al Nasser, Engineering Department Manager – National Grid at SEC, said: "The introduction of four new substations and the upgrade of four others will significantly scale up the power delivery in the Southern Region. The advanced competencies that GE brings are an ideal fit to our requirements. By deploying the latest technologies in grid infrastructure, we are underlining our commitment to deliver reliable, uninterrupted and efficient power supply to our customers in the Kingdom."

As part of the agreement, the four new substations that are delivered by Grid Solutions on a turnkey basis will include the engineering, design, civil work and supply of gas insulated switchgears (GIS), power transformers (PTR), and automation. The other four substations, also in the Southern Region, will be upgraded using the advanced technology solutions of GE. The scope also includes the integration of substation automation to SEC's regional control centers via SCADA system to ensure reliable power supply to customers in the region and to honor the requirements of vision 2030.



The new upgrades build on Saudi Electricity Company recently selecting GE as its solutions provider to drive a nationwide digital transformation of electricity in the Kingdom. Both entities are working to make SEC's power generation capabilities one of the world's most efficient and reliable, as it prepares to meet the anticipated 50% increase in electric energy needed by 2020.

With a presence of over 80 years, three offices and seven facilities, Saudi Arabia accounts for the largest GE workforce in the Middle East with over 2,000 employees driving the Aviation, Healthcare, Oil & Gas, Energy and Transportation businesses.

-ends-

Join the conversation at our GE Hewar blog: http://middleeast.geblogs.com/

#### **Notes to Editor**

#### GE in Saudi Arabia:

GE has been established in Saudi Arabia for more than 80 years. With three offices and seven facilities in the Kingdom, Saudi Arabia accounts for the largest GE workforce in the Middle East with over 2,000 employees driving the Aviation, Healthcare, Oil & Gas, Power & Water and Transportation businesses. On May 23, 2016, GE Chairman Jeff Immelt announced new partnerships & investments to further support Saudi Arabia as global manufacturing & digital industrial hub for GE. These investments will create more than 4,000 jobs & extend training for 1,000 Saudi women and entrepreneurs. The initiatives build on the US\$1 billion investment by the company in the past three years in Saudi Arabia.

#### About GE:

GE (NYSE: GE) is the world's Digital Industrial Company, transforming industry with software-defined machines and solutions that are connected, responsive and predictive. GE is organized around a global exchange of knowledge, the "GE Store," through which each business shares and accesses the same technology, markets, structure and intellect. Each invention further fuels innovation and application across our industrial sectors. With people, services, technology and scale, GE delivers better outcomes for customers by speaking the language of industry. www.ge.com

## **About GE Energy Connections**

GE Energy Connections designs and deploys industry-leading technologies that turn the world on. We transport, convert, automate and optimize energy to ensure we provide safe, efficient and reliable electrical power. Uniting all the resources and scale of the world's first digital industrial company, we connect brilliant machines, grids, and systems to power utility, oil & gas, marine, mining and renewables customers, that keep our world running. Grid Solutions, a GE and Alstom joint venture, is part of GE Energy Connections. www.GEEnergyConnections.com, www.GEGridSolutions.com

### For more information, please contact:

Stephen McCallion GE Communications Leader, Saudi Arabia & Bahrain +966 54 919 6404 stephen.mccallion@ge.com

Kelly Home | Nivine William ASDA'A Burson-Marsteller +9714 4507 600 kelly.home@bm.com | nivine.william@bm.com Caroline Wehbeh GE Communications Director, MENAT +9714 4296318 caroline.wehbeh@ge.com