

Sustainable Energy Policy in Malaysia – What's Next?

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TECHNICAL DIVISION

reported by



Wong Wai Yin

A pre-AGM talk on “Sustainable Energy Policy in Malaysia – What’s Next?” was held at Wisma IEM, on 5 May, 2018. The event, organised by the Electrical Engineering Technical Division (EETD), IEM, attracted 138 participants who later stayed on for the AGM after the talk.

The two-hour talk was delivered by Ir. Akmal Rahimi Abu Samah, Chief Operating Officer of Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) Malaysia. He began by introducing the two main drivers for sustainable energy development, namely renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) as well as the current scenario on RE development in Malaysia, which was in-line with the 8th to 11th Malaysia Plan.

Currently, the three main RE programmes are Feed-in Tariff (FiT), Large Scale Solar (LSS) and Net Energy Metering (NEM). Ir. Akmal elaborated on the status of each programme, in particular the success of solar PV as a promising renewable energy source, in the FiT projects.

As of January 2018, approximately 90% of the MW projects on solar PV have been completed. He said the slower completion of other renewable energy projects on biogas, biomass, small hydro and geothermal, was partly due to obtaining approvals from various parties involved which, however, were in steady progression.

LSS projects have been awarded for two cycles in 2016 and 2017, targetting to supply a total capacity of 1,200 MW in 2020. Ir. Akmal also



The attentive audience



EETD Chairperson 2017/2018 Ir. Chong Chew Fan (right) presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Ir. Akmal

highlighted the current challenge in the NEM programme in which utility consumers who had installed PV systems on the roof for self-consumption, can obtain a displaced cost when they export the excess energy to the grid. The displaced cost remains a hot debate subject at present.

On RE development, Ir. Akmal said many innovative mechanisms, such as carbon taxes, renewable portfolio standards, green certificates etc., need to be in place to grow the RE capacity. He also said the development of the Renewable Energy Transition Roadmap (RETR) 2050 is currently in progress to determine the future electricity system.

On the demand side, he said the key barrier for the slow reduction in EE is attributed to the absence of a dedicated policy and legal framework. One of the current initiatives is to develop the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act and Regulations.

The talk was ended with an active question and answer session. The pre-AGM forum concluded with the 33rd EETD Annual General Meeting. ■

IEM DIARY OF EVENTS

Title: Awareness Talk & PI Workshop on Enhanced Process
22 September 2018

Organised by: Standing Committee
in Examination &
Qualifications

Time : 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
CPD/PDP : 3

Title: 1-Day Seminar on "Digital Revolution : Embracing Technology and Keeping the Power ON"

27 September 2018

Organised by: Building Services
Technical Division

Time : 8.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.
CPD/PDP : 7

Kindly note that the scheduled events are subject to change. Please visit the IEM website at www.myiem.org.my for more information on the upcoming events.