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PRESS RELEASE

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KETRACO ENERGIZES 132kV SONDU – HOMA BAY TRANSMISSION LINE

HOMABAY, KENYA- Kenya Electricity Transmission Company (KETRACO) has today energized the 132kV Sondu (Thurdibouro)-Homabay (Ndhiwa) Transmission Line.

This development means reduced technical power losses in the region, enhanced high-voltage power capacity to support industrial growth, and improved stability and reliability of electricity supply in the South Nyanza region.

Additionally, the line will provide an alternative route for the evacuation of electricity from Sondu and Sang'oro power stations.

The 132kV Sondu–Homabay Transmission Line project is a key government-funded infrastructure initiative aimed at strengthening electricity transmission in the South Nyanza region.

The project involved the construction of approximately 69 kilometres of a 132kV Sondu–Ndhiwa single circuit transmission line and a loop-in to Sondu and Sangoro power stations.

Electricity supplied to Homa Bay and Ndhiwa currently comes from Kisumu via Muhoroni and Chemosit, a transmission route that is over 200 km long. The Sondu Homa Bay Line directly link Sondu to Ndhiwa, covering only 69 km, which will significantly shorten the distance.

Power supply to the region is through Kisumu-Muhoroni Transmission Line which is overloaded. While the line is rated at 81 MW, the region's demand is approximately 120 MW. To prevent system instability, about 20 MW is shed every evening. The new Sondu–Homa Bay Transmission Line will relieve this overload and ensure greater stability and reliability of power supply. The project will additionally improve power in Kericho County via Sotik-Chemosit-Kisii Transmission Line.

The scope of works included detailed design, supply of materials, installation, testing, and commissioning of the transmission line.

KETRACO Acting Managing Director, Eng. Kipkemoi Kibias, noted that the energization of the line will significantly improve power stability in the region and emphasized the need for

public safety, urging members of the public occupying the transmission corridor to relocate in order to prevent the risk of electrocution.

“The energization of this line marks a major milestone in improving power stability in South Nyanza. From the outset, we engaged the community and advised those who had put up structures along the transmission corridor to relocate for their own safety. The safety of the public remains a priority. This project is designed to serve and benefit the wider region.” Said KETRACO Ag. MD Eng. Kipkemoi Kibias.

The project is being implemented under a contract period running from 30th May 2024 to 30th May 2026, spanning 24 months, at a total contract price of KSh 692,875,725.60 fully financed by the Government of Kenya.

The energization of the 132kV Sondu–Homa Bay Transmission Line underscores KETRACO’s commitment to strengthening Kenya’s national transmission grid and supporting the Government’s agenda of delivering reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity to spur socio-economic development across the country.

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About KETRACO

KETRACO, owned by the Government of Kenya, was incorporated on 2nd December 2008 under the Companies Act, pursuant to the reforms in Sessional Paper No.4 to plan, design, construct, own, operate, and maintain high voltage national electricity transmission lines and regional power inter-connector which form the backbone of the National Electricity Grid.

In carrying out its mandate, the Company is developing a new robust grid system to:

1. Improve quality, reliability, and safety of electricity supply throughout the Country.
2. Transmit electricity to areas that are currently not supplied by the national grid.
3. Evacuate power from planned generation points.
4. Provide a link with the neighbouring countries to facilitate power exchange and trade in the East Africa Region
5. Reduce electricity transmission losses hence reducing the cost to the economy.
6. Protect electricity consumers from the high costs of power by absorbing the capital transmission infrastructure.

For more information and clarification, please contact:

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