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Corporate Communications

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GRIDCo COMMISSIONS THE 330kV KUMASI - BOLGATANGA TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Accra, October 16, 2022 --- GRIDCo's 330kV KUMASI – BOLGATANGA transmission line project has been formally commissioned by President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo.

The project was funded by a French Development Agency (AFD) facility of USD 174 Million and a European Union grant of EUR 5 Million dedicated to the Project Management and Supervision. Project works commenced in March 2016 and completed in October 2021.

Project construction was undertaken by Elecnor S.A. for the Kintampo Substation, Eiffage Energies/ABB AG J.V. undertook the Tamale Substation works, while the Bolgatanga Substation was done by Sinohydro Corporation Ltd and KEC International involved the construction of approximately 551 km of 330 kV Transmission Line from Kumasi in the Ashanti Region to Bolgatanga in the Upper East Region.

The Project was part of WAPP regional interconnection project between Ghana and Burkina Faso. It was jointly implemented in Ghana and Burkina Faso by the Ghana Grid Company (GRIDCo) and SONABEL enabling the export of 150MW of power to Burkina Faso.

Chief Executive of GRIDCo, Ing. Ebenezer Essienyi commented, *“GRIDCo is proud to have delivered this complex energy sector project with the support of strategic partners which has a direct impact on power supply for Ghanaians, businesses and foreign customers. This transmission line project reinforces and stabilises GRIDCo's transmission network. It also expands access for Ghana's middle to northern belt, as well as consolidating Ghana's export of up to 150 MW beyond its northern border to Burkina Faso and the Sahel region. I commend all who were involved for their contribution to make this project a reality”*.

The project allows the reduction of transmission losses, increased transmission capacity and improved security of electricity supply to Burkina Faso and other neighboring countries.

France and Europe congratulate GRIDCo for completing this critical infrastructure. The project is already starting to have huge benefits for the Ghanaian people by improving the reliability and efficiency of power transport and distribution up to Northern Ghana.

As the Chargé d’Affaires A.I. of the French Embassy to Ghana, Raphaël Malara adds, “*I do consider that such a project - by enhancing regional integration and facilitating the provision of basic services - is a contribution to stability and peace in the region. This project is also a reflection of the importance of the Energy Sector for the partnership between France and Ghana.*”

This Project has increased transmission capacity to meet growing demand in Ashanti, Northern Ghana and Burkina Faso. GRIDCo continues to improve its transmission assets, quality power supply in Ghana and beyond to effectively carry out its mandate of being the model Grid Company in Africa. These efforts will impact positively on the Socio-economic development of Ghana and Africa as a whole.

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Note to Editors:

Ghana Grid Company Limited (GRIDCo) was incorporated in December 2006 to carry out the economic dispatching and transmission of electricity from facilities of wholesale suppliers (Independent Power Producers [IPPs]) to bulk customers and distribution utilities in Ghana and West Africa. The Company became operational on August 1, 2008, following the transfer of the Transmission System Department and its core staff from VRA to GRIDCo. It operates the National Interconnected Transmission System (NITS). GRIDCo currently transmits electricity to thirty-one (31) Bulk Customers and Distribution Utilities from eleven (11) Wholesale Suppliers, including the Volta River Authority (VRA).

About Agence Française de Développement

The Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group is a public entity which finances and supports transitions toward a more just and sustainable world. As a French overseas aid platform for sustainable development and investment, we and our partners create shared solutions, with and for the people of the global South. Active in more than 4,000 projects in the French overseas departments and some 115 countries, our teams strive to promote health, education and gender equality, and are working to protect our common resources — peace, education, health, biodiversity and a stable climate. It’s our way of honoring the commitment France and the French people have made to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals. Towards a world in common.

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About the European Union

The European Union is made up of 27 Member States, with a population of around 500 million and is the largest trading bloc in the world. The Delegation of the European Union to Ghana has the status of a diplomatic mission and officially represents the European Union in Ghana. The Delegation's mandate is to actively promote the values and policies of the European Union, in an open and equal partnership with the Government and people of Ghana and to deepen the political dialogue on all issues of mutual interest and to strengthen the partnership among others. The European Union supports Ghana in many sectors, among them the energy sector for a global amount of about 50 M€ mainly through grants and blending to the public sector but also with derisked or concessional loans / credit lines to the private sector in the area of renewable energies. Most of the investment support in the energy sector is provided in close partnership with Agence française de Développement in a team Europe spirit.

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/ghana_en