



Cenpower's 350MW IPP Project sets Sub-Saharan African Engineering Record

20 April 2016; Accra – The EPC contractor, commissioned by Cenpower Generation Company Limited to construct the 350MW Kpone Independent Power Plant (KIPP) in Ghana, is setting an engineering record with the deployment of a unique Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) at the project site. The TBM will be used to construct the sea water intake and the sea water outfall, which will be used as a cooling system for the Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) power plant.

The EPC Contractor for the project is Group Five Power International of South Africa. “We have come to a very critical stage in the plant’s construction. The sea water pipelines for the cooling water system cannot be constructed manually using conventional open trench techniques. In order to minimize the environmental impact of construction activities, we need specialised equipment, which up to now have not been deployed in Sub-Saharan Africa,” said Stephen Trickett, Contracts Director of Group Five.

Group Five, has therefore subcontracted underground tunnelling experts, Coleman Tunnelling Africa (Pty) Ltd, which will deploy the TBM, the likes of which is used to drill underground passages, subways, and tunnels, to construct the sea water intake and outfall.

“Our task is to tunnel four drives starting from two launching shafts constructed on the seashore. Two of these tunnels will be straight and underneath the seabed (offshore) whilst the other two tunnels will be curved shaped and onshore under the natural ground to the power plant, without disturbing the natural environment,” said Noel Kerr, Managing Director of Coleman Microtunnelling.

Engineering Analysts say the arrival of the TBM opens up very interesting possibilities for engineering and infrastructure development in Ghana in the oil and gas, , transport, water and sewage management industries. This technology can be used to construct underground passages and tunnels without destroying top-level surfaces and can be used to eliminate the construction of open sewerage drains, which are prevalent in Ghana and other parts of Africa.

Currently, the power plant EPC project is over 40 per cent complete. In addition to the arrival of the TBM on site, the other key recent project milestone is the arrival and installation of the first Gas Turbine, Generator and auxiliaries.

“We are on schedule as per our timelines to complete the project as planned and to provide the full 350MW of electricity supply to the grid by the 4th Quarter of 2017. Cenpower Generation is highly committed to delivering the project on time and the support from our partners; EPC Contractor, sub-contractors, the Community, the project sponsors, lenders and other Stakeholders is tremendous” said Theo Sackey, Chief Executive Officer of Cenpower Generation Company Limited.

Upon completion, the plant, which comprises the 350MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) plant, a 161kV power substation as well as fuel delivery, treatment and storage facilities and Working Capital funding for fuel, would add up to approximately 20 per cent of Ghana’s total thermal power generation.

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Notes to Editors

About Cenpower Generation: Cenpower Generation Company Limited ('Cenpower Generation') is a special purpose Company set up to develop, build and implement the Kpone IPP (KIPP) project, a 350MW light crude oil and gas fired combined cycle power plant in the municipality of Kpone ('KIPP'), within the Tema industrial zone, near Accra, Ghana. The KIPP, one of the largest infrastructure projects currently under development in West Africa, is the first greenfield thermal project financed IPP in Ghana. The shareholders of Cenpower are:

- Africa Finance Corporation – www.africafc.org
- Sumitomo Corporation of Japan - www.sumitomocorp.co.jp/English/
- Cenpower Holdings Limited – www.cenpowerholdings.com
- Africa Infrastructure Investment Fund 2 of South Africa – www.aiimafrica.com and
- FMO of Netherlands – www.fmo.nl

For more information, visit www.cenpowergen.com

About Group Five: Group Five was selected as Cenpower's Engineering Procurement and Construction ('EPC') contractor after a rigorous international procurement process. Group Five is a diversified Construction, Infrastructure Concessions and Related Services group engaged in resources, energy, real estate and infrastructure delivery with a growing international client base in South Africa, the rest of Africa and Eastern Europe. For more information, visit www.groupfive.co.za

About Coleman Tunnelling Africa: Coleman Microtunnelling was established in 1971 and has gained over 40 years' experience providing tunnelling solutions to major role players in the oil, gas and water industries. <http://www.colemanmicrotunnelling.com>

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