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**INSTALLED CAPACITY TO REACH 1,030 MW BY 2026**

**Cengiz Enerji makes Uzbekistan the center of its overseas investments in power generation**

**In the three years since entering the Uzbek market in 2021, Cengiz Enerji has realized two major natural gas cycle power plants in Tashkent and Sirdaryo. Having made Uzbekistan the center of its overseas investments and commenced construction of a third power plant in Jizzakh this year, Cengiz Enerji’s installed capacity in the country will reach 1,030 MW by the last quarter of 2026.**

Cengiz Enerji, a group company of Cengiz Holding and one of Türkiye's largest power producers, is at the same time a power distributor in 13 cities across four regions. Also engaged in electricity sales and natural gas distribution activities, Cengiz Enerji is dedicated to transferring its quarter-century of experience abroad. As part of these efforts, Cengiz Enerji entered the Uzbek market in 2021, supporting the country’s energy supply security with two natural gas cycle power plants in Tashkent and Sirdaryo, each with an installed capacity of 240 MW. The company has now commenced construction of a third 550 MW power plant in Jizzakh that is slated for completion by the last quarter of 2026. Once completed, the company’s total installed capacity in the country will reach 1,030 MW.

Pointing out that Uzbekistan is at the center of the company’s overseas investments, **Cengiz Enerji Deputy General Manager Mustafa Eskiçırak** stated that in the three years they have been transferring the experience they gained in Türkiye, they have become a significant power producer of the country. Giving information about the new natural gas cycle power plant in Jizzakh scheduled to reach completion in two years, Eskiçırak said: “Built on 7.5 hectares of land, the giant power plant in Jizzakh will have an installed capacity larger than the power plants in Tashkent and Sirdaryo combined, which means that we will be able to generate enough electricity for approximately 1.6 million households with a single power plant.” Stating that Cengiz Holding has a tradition of adding value to the people and society of all the regions they operate and invest in, Eskiçırak noted: “We attach utmost care and importance to local employment in every region where we do business. We currently have 193 employees in Tashkent and Sirdaryo, 108 of whom are Uzbek. In Jizzakh, the number of employees will soon exceed 600, and for sure Uzbeks will make up the majority there as well. The renewal of Uzbekistan's energy infrastructure is underway and we are eager to support these efforts with ever-increasing investments in the coming period.”

**‘WE ARE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR RENEWABLE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES’**

Stating that Uzbekistan has significant natural gas reserves, Eskiçırak said that 84% of the country’s total energy consumption is met from natural gas. Eskiçırak explained that natural gas is the most important raw material in electricity generation and continued: “The country’s installed energy capacity exceeds 18,000 MW. There are around 40 power plants, large and small. Half of them are thermal power plants. But there is also a very rapid growth in renewable energy investments. Uzbekistan’s renewable energy capacity plans for the upcoming period are over 7 GW, with 2.6 GW already under construction. As one of the country's major electricity producers, we intend to join the country’s investments in renewables.”

Expressing that their activities in Türkiye have entirely shifted towards renewables in the last five years, Eskiçırak said that they want to continue to break new ground in this field. Eskiçırak explained that they built Türkiye’s first hybrid power plant combining a hydroelectric power plant (HEPP) with a solar power plant (SPP) and added: “We are currently continuing to invest in hybrid power combining wind and solar power plants. We have built the most efficient natural gas power plant of the time in Samsun. We have continued efforts to bring in further novelties and lead the sector in Türkiye. To this end, we plan to install a bird detection radar for the wind power plants (WPPs) we plan to build in Gökçetepe, Edirne. Capable of detecting birds up to 10 kilometers away, these radars will be integrated into the plants’ monitoring and control system (SCADA) and automatically stop the turbines when bird movement is detected. These bird radars, the first of their kind in Türkiye, will hopefully be put into practice within the shortest time and become an integral part of our investments to come.” Eskiçırak underlined that they are looking into new renewable investment opportunities abroad, with priority given to the Turkic Republics.

***EDITOR’S NOTE:***

*Founded in 2000, Cengiz Enerji operates in electricity generation, distribution, sales and natural gas distribution. Cengiz Enerji distributes electricity to a total of 10 million subscribers in 13 cities across four regions in Türkiye, and the electricity generated by the company accounts for 30% of Türkiye's total electricity generation. The company has an installed capacity of 4,845 MW in Türkiye, with further 1,025 MW underway. In the last five years, Cengiz Enerji has shifted its investments entirely towards renewable energy. Renewables currently account for 59% of the company’s total installed capacity, and are expected to increase to 80% once the new investments are completed. The renewable power investments by Cengiz Enerji, all realized with a mindset that is focused on R&D, technology and sustainability, account for approx. 5% of Türkiye's installed renewable energy capacity.*