

Abengoa celebrates start of construction for its photovoltaic plant in Atacama 1, the largest solar complex in Latin America

- Atacama 1 solar complex, with an overall installed capacity of 210 MW, will include the first solar thermal plant in Latin America and a photovoltaic plant
- Both technologies complement each other to supply clean and stable energy 24 hours a day

January 26, 2015 - Abengoa (MCE: ABG.B/P SM /NASDAQ: ABGB), the international company that applies innovative technology solutions for sustainability in the energy and environment sectors, celebrated today the start of the construction of the photovoltaic plant that will be part of Atacama 1 solar complex, located in the north of Chile (Comuna de María Elena, Segunda Región).

The event was attended by Luis Avila, Electricity and Fuel Superintendent of the Ministry of Energy of Chile, and the mayor of the commune of María Elena, Jorge Godoy, to celebrate the start of the construction which will be part of the largest solar platform in Latin America.

The project is based in the Atacama Desert, the region with the highest level of solar radiation in the world. Atacama 1 will feature a photovoltaic plant with a capacity of 100 MW and the first solar thermal plant in Latin America, with 110 MW of installed capacity and 17.5 hours of thermal storage. The overall solar field of the complex covers 1,000 hectares.

The photovoltaic plant will be the largest of its type in the Grand North region, with an installed capacity of 100 MW and 392,000 solar panels that capture the energy from the sun to deliver it directly to the grid.

The solar thermal electric plant, in construction since 2014, it will have 10,600 heliostats and the solar field will cover approximately 700 hectares. Heliostats concentrate solar radiation onto a receiver located at the top of a tower with 250 meters. Radiation coming from the sun is used to heat molten salts. The molten salts create the steam necessary to power a turbine of 110 MW, which generates clean electricity.

The plant will also feature a thermal storage system with molten salts that will permit to deliver stable energy 24 hours a day.

ABENGOA

Innovative technology solutions for **sustainability**

The platform will prevent the emission of around 870,000 tons of CO₂ annually and will allow to meet the energy demand from households and industry by combining both technologies.

It is estimated that the photovoltaic plant will start operation by the end of 2015 and the solar thermal plant in the second quarter of 2017.

Abengoa has been present in Chile since 1987, where it has carried out numerous projects for companies in different sectors, including mining, electricity, communications and industrial sector companies. This new plant will further consolidate its technological commitment to solar thermal electric power and innovation.

Abengoa currently has 1,503 MW of installed capacity in commercial operation, 360 MW under construction and 210 MW in development and it is the only company in the world to construct and operate solar thermal electric plants using both tower and parabolic trough technologies.

About Abengoa

Abengoa (MCE: ABG.B/P SM /NASDAQ: ABGB) applies innovative technology solutions for sustainability in the energy and environment sectors, generating electricity from renewable resources, converting biomass into biofuels and producing drinking water from sea water. (www.abengoa.com)

Communication Department

Patricia Malo de Molina Meléndez.
Tel. +34 954 93 71 11
E-mail: communication@abengoa.com

Investors relations

Bárbara Zubiría Furest.
Tel. +34 954 937 111
E-mail: ir@abengoa.com

You can also follow us on:



@Abengoa



slideshare



LinkedIn

And on our blog: <http://theenergyofchange.com>