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Karaganda Region launches third solar power plant

BY YERBOLAT UATKHANOV in BUSINESS on 28 SEPTEMBER 2019

NUR-SULTAN – The Karaganda Region recently launched a 50-megawatt solar power plant in the village of Agadyr, Shetsky District.



The Karaganda Region has become a leader in introducing renewable energy sources and the 50-megawatt plant is the region's third solar power plant.

“We have one goal. This is the instruction of Kazakhstan’s First President, Nursultan Nazarbayev, to increase the share of alternative energy in Kazakhstan up to 30 percent. And we are confidently moving towards this. Today, we are launching the third large solar power station in the region. This project is very significant for the development of industry in our region. By developing solar energy, we not only overcome the shortage of capacities, but also solve environmental issues,” said Regional Deputy Akim (Deputy Governor) Almas Aidarov.

The solar plant occupies 125 hectares. Powerful substations and 150,000 solar panels were installed here. The construction of the Akadyr

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solar plant was financed by private German investor Solarnet Investment GmbH and supported by the regional akimat (administration) and Kazakh Invest. The project's cost is \$60.2 million, Kazinform news agency reports.

“This is the second solar power station that we are launching in the Karaganda region. These projects were made possible thanks to the joint efforts of German investors, the regional akimat and Kazakh Invest,” said the main investor, Joachim Goldbeck.

He said that already the capacity of the solar plant is 25 megawatts per hour. And a corresponding agreement was reached to expand the solar plant's capacity up to 76 megawatts.

At the beginning of this year, the Karaganda Region signed a memorandum with European investors on the development of alternative energy. In the future, this will provide another 500 megawatts of solar energy and \$548 million of foreign direct investment.

In the Karaganda Region two solar power stations are already operating in Saran and the village of Gulshat. Now all three sources can deliver almost 200 megawatts of green energy.

Solarnet Investment GmbH is an international company specialising in the turnkey construction of photovoltaic plants at the commercial, industrial and large-scale level.

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