

16 JULY 2001
SKS-POWER PLANT
SKS VENTURES MAY RELOCATE POWER PLANT

KUALA LUMPUR, July 16 (Bernama) -- SKS Ventures Sdn Bhd is considering to relocate its yet-to-be-built RM6 billion coal-fired power plant at Pulau Bunting in Kedah, to another state, says its chairman Datuk Hilmi Mohd Nor today.

The reason for the proposed relocation is the high reclamation cost, Hilmi told reporters on the sidelines of the Malaysian Electric Power Forum 2001 here today.

The sand for the reclamation work, which would involved a total area of 800 hectares, is now expected to be more costly than was originally estimated under the Pulau Bunting project's business plan.

SKS Ventures today signed a heads of agreement contract with the national power corporation, Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB).

Its power plant will have a final capacity of 3x700 megawatts with the first power-delivering unit to come onstream in 2006.

According to earlier reports, Johor is one of the states to which SKS Ventures might relocate its proposed power plant.

Meanwhile in a separate press conference, the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said that the government had not been told officially about SKS Ventures' plan to relocate its power plant.

"We have not been told officially about this," he said.

Pulau Bunting forms part of an ambitious RM30 billion coastal reclamation project in Kedah initiated by a former Menteri Besar of the state. -- BERNAMA

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