



THE OFFICIAL INAUGURATION OF THE OMBURU SOLAR CONCENTRATED POWER

By

Hon. Obeth Kandjoze, MP
Minister of Mines and Energy

13TH MAY 2014

- Director of Ceremonies
- The Founding President of the Republic of Namibia and Father of the Namibian Nation, Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma
- Our First Lady Madam Kovambo Nuujoma,
- Deputy Minister of Mines & Energy, Hon Shilunga
- Governor of the Erongo Region, Hon Mutjavikua
- Honourable Councilors present here
- Ambassador of France in Namibia, Your Excellency Jacqueline Bassa- Mazzoni
- Chief Executive Officer of InnoSun Mr. Grégoire Verhaeghe,
- Governor of the Erongo Region, Hon. Cleophas Mutjavikua
- Permanent Secretary of the MME, Mr. Kahijoro Kahuure
- Managing Director of Nampower, Mr. Paulinus Shilamba, Managing Director of Erongo Red, Managing Director of DBN, Martin Inkumbi
- Former MP and Member of Swapo Politburo, Ben Amadhila
- Esteemed Development partners; and Heads of IPP's
- Distinguished business personalities and captains of industries
- Friends from the Media present;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to first and foremost take this opportunity to thank InnoSun Energy Holdings and the Governor of the Erongo Region for the warm welcome and hospitality that you have extended to us upon our arrival this morning.

I'm delighted to be standing here this morning, to be part of the celebrations of a project that has brought about positive impact regarding energy development, for Namibia and in particular, the Erongo Region. Progressive game changing developments of this nature, no matter the measure, should be recognized and adopted into generation mix and celebrated as we are doing today.

Government not only remains committed to supporting renewable energy technologies but intent to actively introduce and proliferate the use of these technologies to complement conventional energy sources. The call by the Governor for Government to liberalise the generation of electricity in the wake of the fresh and new Government objectives cannot be ignored and the stifling bureaucracy preventing our people from harvesting this benefit must be our new phobia for sun and wind Namibia has in boundless supply. Independent Power Producers (IPP) in solar, wind and biomass are thus strongly encouraged to invest in renewable energy projects such as this one. We have heard from the MD of Nampower that the utility is totally and completely in sync with CSP and WIND generation concepts, there is thus therefore no reason what so ever for this beautiful country to ever experience load shedding as is the case with our southern neighbour.

The InnoSun MD has just confirmed to us that only 40 such plants will be needed to produce about 200 MW and in so doing wipe the gap before Kudu comes on stream. I am sure that all of us here agree that for job creation, alleviation of poverty and local value addition for the benefit of all our people in the medium to long term has found a partner in IPP's, the Ministry and Nampower.

It is without doubt today that alternative sources of electricity generation in the ambit of concentrated solar power and wind technologies is fast catching up with conventional sources of generation and deserve closer and

serious attention and unwavering support as credible alternatives that have the potential to mitigate cost of generation, better turn around opportunities in provision service and clearly can serve to augment our sources of supply mix.

The Rural Electricity Master Plan facilitated by the Ministry of Mines and Energy has identified areas where grid-electrification will remain a challenge in the foreseeable future and hence solar power is the identified solution.

Ladies and Gentlemen

For the fact that my role today is to welcome the key note speaker I will therefore be very short and brief. It thus suffices to indulge your patience and say the following few words about the key note speaker. He is a man of outstanding leadership qualities, unwavering courage, steadfastness, vigour, commitment and dedication.

Not only is he well known to us all as the leader who spearheaded the Namibian revolution and our country's march to freedom, while breaking the chains of apartheid. He is an icon who-in-all, is known for his unwavering zest and tireless commitment to Nation building and infrastructure development.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Please allow me at this time to welcome on stage, our Key note speaker who is non-other than the Founding President of the Republic of Namibia and the Father of the Namibian Nation.

Your Excellency, Dr. Sam Shafiishuna Nujoma, Father of the Namibian Nation may I kindly invite you to the podium.

I thank you