

Electromaxx tests 20MW power plant

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ELECTROMAXX, the first local independent power producer, is conducting test-runs at its \$32m Tororo heavy fuel thermal plant.

Heavy fuel oil power generation is more effective and cheaper than the ordinary diesel thermal plant.

DECCO Limited, a South Korean firm that is working on the project, has completed the construction and installation of 20MW electrical equipment and generators.

"We have been test-running the plant for the past two weeks and anticipate to start commercial operations in mid-January," Charles Muhumuza, the Electromaxx executive director, explained.

"Electromaxx wishes to thank all the stakeholders in the energy sector without whom this milestone would never have been possible," he said.

Muhumuza thanked the Government for providing an enabling environment for the private sector to invest and promoting the private-public partnership initiative.

This private-public partnership encourages joint ventures between private companies and the Government.

When the Electromaxx plant is connected onto the national grid, it will increase power generation to about 483.5MW, up from 380MW in 2008.

According to experts, when the Tororo plant is commissioned, it will boost power supply capacity and accessibility.

This will in turn create more jobs, reduce poverty and improve quality of life as power supply would be cheap.

"The increase in power supply will make local industries and small-and-medium enterprises more competitive, especially at the time of the anticipated commencement of the East African Community Common Market," experts add.

With the discovery of crude oil and gas in the Lake Albertine Graben, the rapid changes in the world fuel prices that have an adverse cash-flow impact on operations, will be solved.

The Government has already indicated that it wants to use its discovered hydro-carbon resources for local power production and the country's energy needs.

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