Construction of Ethiopia-Kenya power transmission line begins

Written by Administrator Wednesday, 03 August 2016 11:43 -



A Chinese firm has began the construction of a major power transmission line project within Ethiopia. The firm China Electric Power Equipment and Technology (CET) announced Monday that it had officially commenced the construction of the Ethiopia-Kenya power transmission line

Expected to cost USD1.26 billion the Ethiopia-Kenya power transmission line is financed by the African Development Bank. It runs about 1,045km, of which 445km is within Ethiopia's territory and the rest in Kenya.

The 500 KV transmission line will have the transmitting capacity of 2,000 MW.

The Ethiopia-Kenya power project is expected to be completed within a year. It aims at achieve regional power grids interconnection in the East Africa sub-region, is expected to be completed within a year.

Officials from the Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) and CET attended the project's commencement ceremony at Wolayta Sodo, about 425 km south of Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa.

Reta Nigussie, EEP Transmission and Substation Projects Program Officer expressed confidence that the project will boost Ethiopia's economy by generating foreign currency.

"It will transmit 2,000 MW to Kenya and other East African countries. It will be useful for Ethiopia because it generates foreign currency. It will help our economy to develop," said Reta.

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He expressed optimism that China Electric Power Equipment and Technology will complete the Ethiopia-Kenya power project on the stipulated time.