

Towards Full Electrification by 2025

Rural Power Supply Scheme (RPSS)

What is RPSS?

The Rural Power Supply Scheme or RPSS is part of the Sarawak Government's Accelerated Rural Electrification Masterplan being implemented by Ministry of Utilities and Sarawak Energy under Projek Rakyat. With a funding of RM2.37 billion, the masterplan aims to electrify 97% of rural Sarawak in 2020 towards full electrification in 2025.

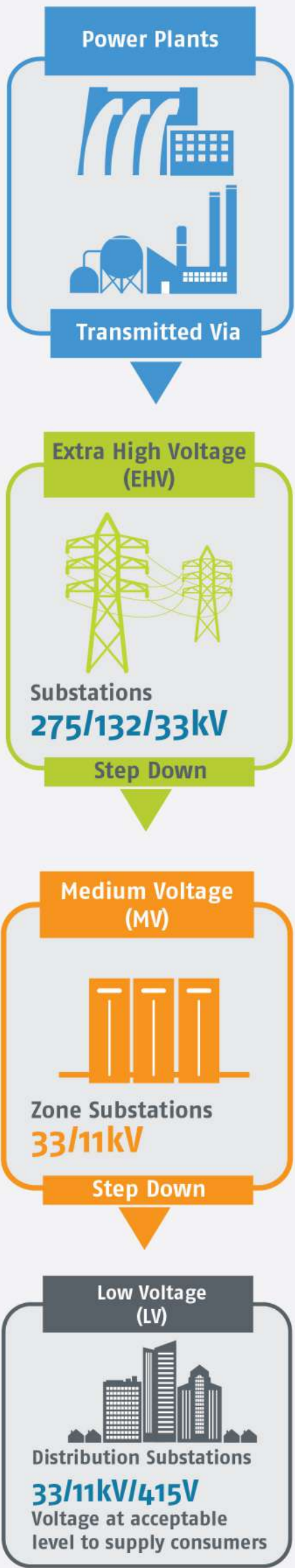
RPSS involves the construction of new transmission and distribution lines and substations to extend existing gridlines for the rural areas.

Under RPSS, new reliable power source points are constructed by way of substations to despatch electricity from the generation source to consumers. Instead of having long supply lines, substations are constructed wherever possible especially if there are transmission lines passing through the area.

Substations are integral components of a power system as they transform voltage from high to low or otherwise where necessary. This means a reinforced system capable of speedy restoration should there be tripping and accommodating for expansion of development in the area for the next 20 to 30 years.



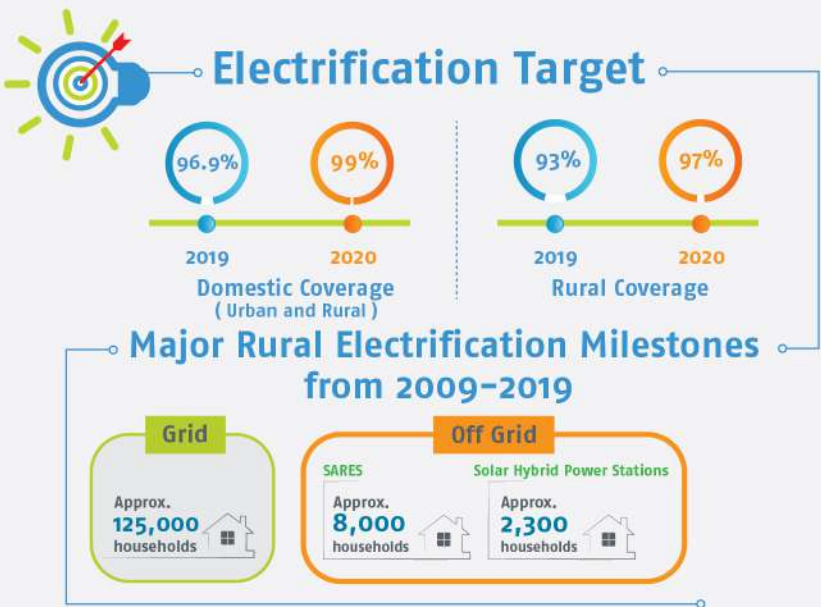
Chief Minister of Sarawak Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg (3rd from left) officiating at the Majlis Perasmian Projek Utiliti Sarawak at the site of the Kanowit 132/33/11kV substation.



RPSS includes:

- Two Extra High Voltage (EHV) substations at Tatau (275kV) and Kanowit (132kV)
- Ten Medium Voltage (MV) 33kV substations at Batang Ai, Pakan, Julau, Dalat, Ngungun, Sangan, Sebauh, Long Lama, Bakelalan and Belaga.
- Eight MV 33kV main lines using new covered conductor technology totaling about 500km.

RPSS is expected to be completed in the next two to three years at a cost of about RM600 million.



Projek Rakyat – Kanowit 132kV Substation



The **Kanowit 132kV substation** will link to Julau and Ngungun MV substations via double-circuit covered conductor lines, providing a reliable source of electricity to power up rural villages and households.

The substation will extend the transmission grid further into central Sarawak, providing thousands of homes and businesses with reliable, renewable and affordable electricity, when it is ready for partial operation in December 2020 and is fully operational by March 2021.

The substation, which commenced construction in 2019, is expected to cost about RM54 million.

On 11 January, Chief Minister of Sarawak Datuk Patinggi (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari Bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg officiated during the *Majlis Perasmian Projek Utiliti Sarawak* at the Kanowit 132kV substation project site. He was joined by Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister, Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas; Minister for Utilities, Dato Sri Dr Stephen Rundi Utom; Assistant Minister for Utilities (Rural Electricity), Datuk Liwan Lagang; Assistant Minister for Utilities (Water Supply), Datuk Dr Haji Abdul Rahman Junaidi; and members of the Sarawak Legislative Assembly.

Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Utilities Dato Ir. Alice Jawan Empaling and Sarawak Energy Group Chief Executive Officer Datu Haji Sharbini Suhaili were also present at the launch.



(From left) Dato Alice and Datu Haji Sharbini were joined by Sarawak Energy Executive Vice President for Project Delivery, Pramod Kumar; Senior Vice President for Corporate Services, Hajah Siti Aisah Adenan; Ministry of Utilities' Director for Jabatan Bekalan Air Luar Bandar, Chang Kuet Shian; and Sarawak Energy Vice President for Rural Electrification, Dr Chen Shiun.

Sarawak Energy senior management being briefed on the project progress.