

Project 1

Public-Private-Partnership Advisory for Dubai Electricity & Water Authority for the Solar IPP Procurements of Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park Phases II, III, and IV

In a quest to diversify the energy sources away from oil, UAE has embarked on its UAE Energy Strategy 2050. The UAE Energy Strategy 2050 aims to achieve an energy mix combining renewable and clean energy sources to balance economics requirements and environmental goals.

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum – Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai – also launched the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050, which aims to provide 7% of Dubai's total power output from clean energy by 2020. As part of this strategy, the Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park (MBR Solar Park) was launched in 2012. It is the largest single-site solar energy project in the world, with a planned total production capacity of 5,000MW by 2030. When completed, the park will reduce over 6.5 million tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

To assist with procuring Phase II of the project on an Independent Power Producer (IPP) model, Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA) appointed an advisory consortium comprising KPMG (lead and financial advisor); Lahmeyer International (technical advisor); and Norton Rose Fulbright (legal advisor). KPMG was subsequently re-appointed as lead financial advisor for Phase III alongside Fichtner and Norton Rose Fulbright as technical and legal advisors respectively. For Phase IV of the project, the advisory consortium was led by KPMG (financial advisor) and consisted of Mott MacDonald (technical advisor) and Ashurst (legal advisor).

Throughout Phase II, III and IV of the MBR Solar Park, KPMG led the advisory consortium to work in partnership with DEWA to develop a bankable project commercial structure, project risk allocation, draft key agreements, run a competitive reverse auction to select the most effective IPP partner, and collaborate closely with DEWA and the selected bidder to achieve successful financial close in Q1 2019.



Source: DEWA (Artist's impression of MBR Solar Park)

<https://www.dewa.gov.ae/en/about-us/media-publications/latest-news/2019/03/dewa-releases-rfq-for-900mw>