

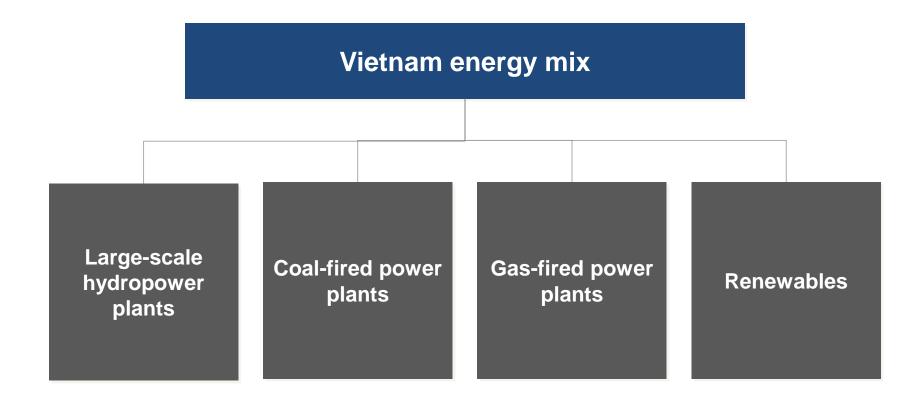
#### **Solicitors & Barristers**

#### **2017 Outlook for Vietnam Renewable Energy**

Latest Regulatory and Market Developments AmCham Vietnam 8 June 2017

> Pham Ba Linh Managing Partner LLB (Hanoi) LLM (Nottingham) FSIArb

#### **Power generation**





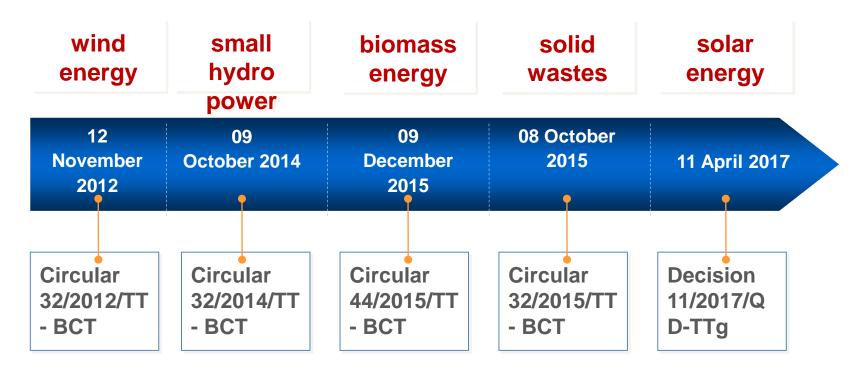
# Key challenges in the power sector

- long-term security of power generation supplies
- high emissions and high energy imports
- increasing dependency on coal imports
- key policy challenges:
  - ✓ achieving sufficient generation capacity to meet future energy demands
  - ✓ mobilizing major debt and equity investments in power
  - ✓ reducing energy and carbon intensity and promoting energy efficiency

✓ reducing reliance on coal and promoting renewable energy



### **Renewables regulatory framework**



- Revised PDP7
- Vietnam's Renewable Energy Development Strategy (REDS)

• PM approval of National Green Growth Strategy LEXcomm Solicitors & Barristers

# **Revised PDP7**

- high growth power demand anticipated in Revised PDP7
- substantial potential for renewable energy resources, particularly solar PV, wind, biomass and small hydropower
- stronger emphasis placed on RE development for power generation
- incremental increase in the proportion of electricity produced from RE resources
- targeted electricity production from RE

✓ 7% by 2020

✓ over 10% by 2030



# **Revised PDP7**

- electricity production from solar energy
  - ✓ 0.5% by 2020
  - ✓ 1.6% by 2025
  - ✓ 3.3% by 2030
- electricity production from wind energy
  - ✓ 0.8% by 2020
  - ✓ 1.0% by 2025
  - ✓ 2.1% by 2030



# **Revised PDP7**

- electricity production from biomass energy and power cogeneration at sugar plants
  - ✓ 1.0% by 2020
  - ✓ 1.2% by 2025
  - ✓ 2.1% by 2030
- electricity production from hydropower (including large-scale projects)
  - ✓ 29.5% by 2020
  - ✓ 20.5% by 2025
  - ✓ 15.5% by 2030



# Solar energy

- favourable solar irradiation in Vietnam
- international cost prices are steadily reducing
- currently modest solar installations
- projected installed capacity

✓ 850MW by 2020, 4,000MW by 2025, 12,000MW by 2030

• recent market developments on solar farms

✓ Fujiwara Binh Dinh solar and wind power project (a 64MW solar power plant COD in Q1 2019 and a 36MW wind power plant COD in Q1 2020)

✓ Thanh Hoa 1 (160MW developed by BS Heidelberg Solar)

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# Wind energy

- good potential of large-scale wind energy
- 65 projects registered to generate more than 5,700MW
- currently 190MW wind installations
- wind farms in operation
  - ✓ Bac Lieu (99.2MW offshore, developed by Cong Ly)
  - ✓ Tuy Phong (30MW, developed by REVN) in Binh Thuan
  - ✓ Phu Lac (24MW, developed by TBW) in Binh Thuan
  - ✓ Phu Quy (6MW, developed by PV Power RE) in Binh Thuan
  - ✓ Huong Linh 2 (30MW, developed by Tan Hoan Cau) in Quang



# Wind energy

- projected installed capacity
  - ✓ 800MW by 2020 (unlikely to achieve), 2,000MW by 2025, 6,000MW by 2030
- under construction (230MW)
  - ✓ Mui Dinh (37.6MW, developed by EAB) in Ninh Thuan
  - ✓ Trung Nam (90MW, developed by Trung Nam) in Ninh Thuan
  - ✓ Khai Long (100MW, developed by Cong Ly) in Ca Mau
- new wind farm projects
  - ✓ Phu Cuong (800MW, 150 200 MW Phase 1, developed by Phu Cuong, GE & Mainstream Renewable Power (MRP)) in Soc Trang

LEX comm Solicitors & By riste am Nai (40MW developed by Blue Circle/TSV) in Ninh Thuan<sup>10</sup>



- biomass and co-generation (sugar)
- currently approximately 150MW biomass installations
- projected installed capacity
  - ✓ 500MW by 2020
  - ✓ 2,000MW by 2030



## **Feed-in tariff**

- power tariffs in Vietnam are lower than those of other countries
  - ✓ US cents 9.35/kWh for solar (initially proposed US cents 11.2/kWh)
  - ✓ US cents 7.8/kWh for onshore wind (including US cent 1.0/kWh Government support via VEPF) and US cents 9.8/kWh for offshore wind
  - ✓ US cents 5.8/kWh for power co-generation, other biomass projects subject to avoided costs regime
  - ✓ US cents 10.05/kWh for solid wastes to power
  - ✓ subject to avoided costs regime for small hydropower projects
- no escalation clause, tariff in the draft solar PPA is not LEX COMM Solicitors a Constant of CPI or FX

## **EVN's offtake obligations**

- Vietnam adopts a monopoly "single buyer" RE electricity market
- EVN and its authorised member companies remain the sole intermediary power offtaker and aggregator of renewable energy projects
- no mechanism for direct corporate PPAs



# **Decision 11 re solar energy**

- regulates the conventional solar photovoltaic (PV) power system
- classifies two types of solar PV projects:

✓ roof-mounted solar

- ✓ grid-connected solar
- requires all PPAs that are already executed before 01 June 2017 must be amended in accordance with the model form of the solar PPA
- leaves open many of fundamental bankability issues critical to the ultimate success in increasing the use of solar energy



# **Draft solar PPA**

- MOIT's first draft of the PPA model form is non-bankable, AmCham, VBF and other chambers submitted analysis and recommendations to the Government
- feed-in tariff
- EVN's offtake obligations
- grid connection issues seller currently bears the risk of connecting the power plant with the grid
- PPA term 20 years from COD, no extension rights
- dispute resolution no provision on international arbitration in a neutral forum
- termination rights and termination payments



# **Other bankability issues**

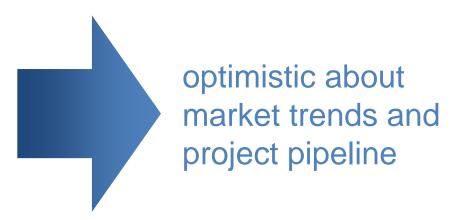
- complex and lengthy RE master planning and licensing processes
- lack of a robust and consistent risk allocation framework to provide greater certainty on certain key risks that should be retained by the Government
- Government support on foreign currency conversion
- complex land acquisition process and compensation
- EVN creditworthiness



# **2017 outlook for Vietnam RE**

Vietnam attracts plenty of attention from international investors on RE projects, including solar and wind energy

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- feed-in tariff remains unattractive to investors
- Government needs to act quickly to address policy lags and issues on RE development and investments
- numerous regulatory challenges need to be addressed for international lenders to project finance the development of medium and utility-scale RE projects



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