



MINISTRY  
OF  
ENERGY

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Date. 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

**Accra**

**For Immediate Release**

**RE: 'Dumsor' imminent if urgent steps are not taken – Hon. Dr. Kwabena Donkor**

The attention of the Ministry of Energy has been drawn to a news item on various media platforms, in which former Minister of Power under the John Mahama administration, Dr. Kwabena Donkor is quoted as predicting the return of 'dumsor' on the back of what he described as insignificant addition to our generation capacity.

First, we wish to state as a matter of record that the pervasive 'dumsor' which plagued the country in the past was never about generational capacity but rather, primarily due to three main factors;

1. Poor hydrology due to over drafting of hydro dams
2. Inadequate fuel supply to thermal plants, and
3. Financial Challenges.

In addressing the issue of poor hydrology, there is currently the prudent management of hydro resources which include the hybridization of our hydro dams. The 250MW Bui Solar project of which 50MW has been commissioned and operationalized, with the next phases on-going, is to curb the challenge of over drafting of the Bui Dam.

Secondly, under this government, gas flow is no longer uni-directional. The Takoradi-Tema Interconnection Project (TTIP) is ensuring the reverse flow of indigenous natural gas from the West to the East to power our turbines. What this means is that we no longer have the phenomenon of stranded gas in the west of the country. Again, the Tema LNG project when completed soon, will allow the importation of LNG to support generation.

## Existing Generation Capacity

The claim by Dr. Donkor that the NPP government has not added 'significantly' to the energy generation capacity cannot be supported by the available facts. Government is of the view that, there must be prudent addition to the generation capacity in order not to get the country into over-capacity and its associated issues, and that the addition must be premised on projected demand.

Under the Akufo-Addo administration, the following have so far been the interventions by way of addition to the generation capacity

Project	Capacity (MW)
Amandi	204
Bui Solar	50
VRA Kaleo	17

It is important to also state that 150MW out of the 400MW Early Power plant has also been installed.

The total generation capacity added by this government is therefore **421MW**. This brings Ghana's total installed capacity to 5358.50MW, against the backdrop of current peak demand of 3,469MW which was recorded on March 18, 2022.

## Ongoing Projects

Beyond the current generation capacity, there are on-going generation facility projects which the Ministry is fully committed to.

- a. Early Power: This is a 400MW power plant located at Tema which will be constructed in two phases made up of 200MW each. Phase 1A of the first phase (147MW) commenced commissioning in 2021 and completing commercial operation issues. The second part 1B of 53MW is also expected to come online this year. The final phase making up 400MW is expected to be commissioned by 2024
- b. Pwalugu Hydro and Solar Hybrid Plant: This is a 60MW hydroelectric plant in hybrid operation with a 50MWp Solar PV plant which is expected to be completed and commissioned by 2025. The plant will be located in the Upper East Region.

The Ministry therefore rejects the assertion by the former Power Minister that there is a risk of returning to 'dumsor' by virtue of the state of generational capacity.

In line with our projected demand and the prudent management of the energy sector, the Ministry of Energy is confident that there is no way that this country will go back to the dark days of 'dumsor'.

We wish to urge Dr. Donkor to first seek the correct information on this and similar issues from the Ministry in future before going public with pronouncements that are not only incorrect but also have the tendency to mislead the public and cause unnecessary concerns. This is particularly due to the fact that he is a former Minister for Power and his pronouncements therefore carry some weight.

We urge Ghanaians to rest assured that the Ministry of Energy, under the leadership of Hon. Dr. Matthew Opoku Prempeh, remains committed to solving every challenge in the generation, transmission and distribution system of the energy sector.

We are committed to keeping the lights on and the nation moving.

**\*ENDS\***

**Issued by the Communications and Public Affairs Unit**

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