

NEC, BPTT on the road to renewable energy

CLINT CHAN TACK

THE National Energy Corporation (NEC) is actively pursuing opportunities in renewable energy.

One project is NGC CNG's partnership with National Petroleum (NP) on the roll out of CNG at existing and new gas stations across the country. NEC is part of the NGC Group which remains committed to the development of the energy sector, acting NEC president Wendy Seow said during the Energy Chamber's 2019 Renewable Energy Conference, Hilton Trinidad, St Ann's, last Monday. On May 1, the sod was turned for the construction of the first solar-powered fuel service station in TT, at the Preysal Roundabout in Couva.

Seow said NEC is leading the installation and commissioning of a solar photovoltaic system for the station. "Request for proposals have been issued and tenders are due to close later this month." The station will have dispensers for liquid fuels and CNG, two electric direct current fast chargers for electric vehicles and a convenience store. It will also serve as a new model design for the development of future service stations.

NEC, IDB Invest and a consultant conducted a series of energy audits for energy use categories to assess the viability of developing an energy performance contracting industry in TT, Seow explained. This will be supported through the establishment of a super

esco as a mechanism for accelerating the implementation of energy efficiency measures.

An esco is a commercial or non-profit business providing a broad range of energy solutions including designs and implementation of energy savings projects, retrofitting, energy conservation, energy infrastructure outsourcing, power generation and energy supply, and risk management. Seow said the super esco initiative has the ability to create a new sub-sector within the clean energy space, fostering entrepreneurship among budding and experienced professionals.

The commitment of the NGC Group to the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives, she observed,



NGC president Mark Loquan. FILE PHOTO

is underscored by the attendance of NGC president Mark Loquan and NEC president Vernon Paltoo at meetings in Chile this month on collaboration in these areas. In her remarks, BPTT president Claire Fitzpatrick said there is a need to chart the course towards a lower carbon future for TT. TT, as a party to the Paris Accord, is committed to reducing cumulative greenhouse gas emissions by 15 per cent from industry, power transport by 2030. However, BPTT has



Claire Fitzpatrick, regional president BPTT. PHOTO COURTESY BPTT

developed its own multi-year lower carbon mission and plan, said Fitzpatrick, which focuses on areas, such as power generation, energy efficiency and logistics.

BPTT is working with its partners to help TT achieve both its emissions and renewable energy targets, she said. Parent group BP is globally investing in renewables and is exploring, according to Fitzpatrick, "how we can bring some of these low carbon solutions to TT."

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