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PRESS RELEASE

Kumasi, Ghana – July 8, 2025

Joint Press Statement: GRIDCo, European Union and France launch €8.7million Reconstruction of Ahodwo (K1BSP) – Anwomaso (K2BSP) Transmission Line Project with Stone Laying Ceremony

The Ghana Grid Company LTD. (GRIDCo), The European Union (EU) and the French Development Agency (AFD) today jointly launched the €8.7million reconstruction of the 161kV transmission line from Anwomaso Substation to Kumasi Substation with a symbolic groundbreaking ceremony in Kumasi.

This landmark reconstruction, co-funded by the EU and AFD in Team Europe spirit is part of the critical transmission infrastructure upgrade projects being undertaken in the Ashanti Region aimed at enhancing power reliability, while securing the Ghana-Burkina Faso interconnection line to allow Ghana to export power to Burkina Faso.

The project involves the upgrade of the existing 18km, single circuit 161kV transmission line (rated capacity of 364MVA) from the Ahodwo Substation to the Anwomaso Substation into a double circuit 161kV transmission (rated capacity \approx 1,000MVA), including associated substation expansion activities.

In addition to this, the project also supported the upgrade of GRIDCo's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and related Telecommunication system.

With the upgrade of the transmission line and the SCADA system, GRIDCo enhances real-time monitoring, control, and reliability of the national grid, reducing outages and improving operational efficiency not only in Kumasi, but also in the whole country. It also enables better integration of renewable energy sources and supports future smart grid developments for a more resilient energy infrastructure.

The Chief Executive of GRIDCo, Ing. Mark Baah stated: “This project has been in GRIDCo's expansion plans for a long time. GRIDCo remains grateful for the technical and financial support from the European Union (EU) through the French Development

Agency (AFD) that is enabling us to implement this Project. It was part of a larger Project funded by AFD that facilitates the evacuation of power from the Anwomaso Generation Hub and support the export of electricity to Burkina Faso. GRIDCo, as the operator of the NITS, will continue to leverage on international partnerships that support its mission to provide a reliable grid for national development and drive sustainable development.

The reconstructed line is expected to be completed within 12 months and will result in improved reliability of power supply to Kumasi due to increase power transfer capacity between the Ahodwo and Anwomaso Substations. It will also result in reduced system losses and improved system reliability. The **Minister of Energy, Dr. John Jinapor**, commented: “The Ashanti Region is a fast-growing hub for generation capacity in Ghana. I am optimistic that once this project completes, power supply reliability for Kumasi will further improve to match demand which has been growing exponentially.”

The EU Ambassador to Ghana, H.E. Irchad Razaaly stated: “We remain fully committed to driving partnerships that build a smarter, more resilient power infrastructure for Ghana. Our goal is that this reconstruction not only delivers more reliable and efficient electricity to Kumasi but also supports climate-smart growth, strengthens cross-border energy trade, and reinforces the financial sustainability of the power sector for the long term.”

For his part, **the Director of AFD, Mrs. Clementine Dardy, on behalf of the French Ambassador Jules Armand Aniambossou** said: "The strengthening of the transmission network around Kumasi is not only a technical project — it is a strong symbol of our shared ambition for sustainable development, inclusive growth, and reliable access to energy for all. France, through the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), is proud to support this transformative effort, in close partnership with the Government of Ghana and GRIDCo, to build a more resilient and sustainable energy future for all."

Main benefits of the upgrade of the transmission line include:

- Relieving the existing substations from overloads and thereby allowing for planned maintenance works to be carried out without load shedding.
- Securing the Ghana-Burkina Faso interconnection line to allow Ghana to export power to Burkina Faso in a reliable manner
- Significant reduction in power losses, especially at the medium voltage level.
- Improved operating voltages to over 400,000 consumers.

- Facilitate evacuation of additional capacity from the generation hub in Kumasi to meet projected load growth in Kumasi and its environs.

The support received from the European Union partly funded the upgrade of GRIDCo's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and related Telecommunication system. This system provides the following benefits to the grid operation.

- Enhanced visibility of the transmission infrastructure with the capability to collect relevant data for analysis, monitoring and control of the National Interconnected Transmission System (NITS).
- Enable System Operators to gain quick access to key information in the event of faults to enable faster isolation of lines as necessary to avoid system collapse and maintain overall network security.
- Improved capacity to integrate new substations transmission infrastructure, generating plants and other equipment which will be installed on the Ghana power system in the ensuing years as it grows.
- Availability of a redundant SCADA system to ensure continued operation during contingencies on the main System Control Centre (SCC) in Tema.
- Stronger security infrastructure for the national grid incorporating distributed renewable energy resources, new telecommunications features and support Cyber Security Monitoring.

In attendance at the ceremony are high-level dignitaries, including the Minister of Energy, H.E. EU Ambassador to Ghana Irchard Razaaly, H.E. France Ambassador to Ghana, AFD's country director, representatives from the World Bank, Traditional Authorities, and key stakeholders in the energy sector.

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Note to Editors:

The Ghana Grid Company LTD. (GRIDCo) was incorporated in December 2006 to carry out the economic dispatching and transmission of electricity from facilities of wholesale suppliers (Independent Power Producers [IPPs]) to bulk customers and distribution utilities in Ghana and West Africa. The Company became operational on August 1, 2008, following the transfer of the Transmission System Department and its core staff from VRA to GRIDCo. It operates the National Interconnected Transmission System (NITS). GRIDCo currently transmits electricity to thirty-three (33) Bulk Customers and Distribution Utilities from eleven (11) Wholesale Suppliers, including the Volta River Authority (VRA).

The European Union (EU) is a major contributor to the energy sector in Ghana. Through the global Gateway Strategy and in Team Europe spirit with our Member States, Development Finance Institutions, the European Investment Bank, and the European private sector, we are mobilising up to 850 million EUR in Ghana over 7 years to support the energy sector. The major EU and member states contributors to the energy sector in Ghana are: France, Germany, Spain, Denmark, and the European Investment Bank.

About the French Embassy in Ghana

The French Embassy in Ghana aims to strengthen political relations and partnerships between France and Ghana in areas such as culture, French language, science and higher education, economic affairs, sustainable development, defence and security.

About AFD Group

AFD Group finances and drives the transition to a fairer, safer and more resilient world, working with its partners to support communities all over the world. Drawing on the complementary strengths of its entities – Agence Française de Développement for public financing, Proparco for responsible private investment, and Expertise France for technical expertise – the Group is ideally positioned to meet all sustainable development challenges. AFD works in over 160 countries with over 4,000 projects, whose objectives are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) toward a world in common.