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Green Energy to partner with China-based polysilicon maker for solar ingot production

Staff reporter, Taipei; Esther Lam, DIGITIMES [Monday 21 July 2008]

Green Energy has secured land in Neimeng, China where it plans to construct a solar ingot plant with polysilicon to be supplied by a domestic player, according to industry sources.

Executives from Green Energy, however, declined to comment on the company's deployment in China, other than to say it is still making progress.

The sources indicated that Green Energy has secured a 200-acre plot in Huhehaote, Neimeng to construct the solar ingot fab. The fab is expected to start operation late in third-quarter 2008 with a capacity 1GWp, about four-times Green Energy's current capacity (270MWp) in Taiwan.

Shenzhou Silicon Industry, a subsidiary of the state-owned Shanghai Aerospace Automobile Electromechanical, which is currently in the process of establishing a polysilicon fab in Huhehaote, is said to be a motivating factor in Green Energy's decision to also build a production base there, the industry sources pointed out.

Shenzhou Silicon has a budget of 1.8 billion yuan (US\$263.4 million) for first-phase polysilicon production, according to a Chinese-language *Beijing Business Today* (BBT) report as cited by SEMI. The production plant is slated to complete construction in late 2008 with production to follow in early 2009. The company plans to deliver an annual capacity of 4,500-7,500 tons in three to four years.

In related news, San Chih Semiconductor, parent company of Green Energy, has started construction of a solar ingot sawing plant in Shangdong, China which is expected to complete in late 2008.

Related stories:

San Chih announces solar ingot investment in China (Jul 10)

Green Energy progresses on China investment; secures new polysilicon supply (Jul 10)

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