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ADDRESS BY MR EUGENE YAP GIAU CHENG, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY  
SECRETARY (TRADE & INDUSTRY) AND (THE ENVIRONMENT),  
AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE POWER SYSTEM CONTROL CENTRE  
AT AYER RAJAH AVENUE ON WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER '88 AT 10.00 AM

The demand for electricity has increased more than 15 times over the past 25 years since the Public Utilities Board was established in 1963. Electricity is an indispensable energy resource of modern societies. As industrial and commercial activities continue to grow, so the demand for electricity will continue to go up. The Public Utilities Board has therefore to ensure that the supply of electricity will always be ahead of demand, reliable, available at economic prices, and meeting the high quality of service expected by our customers.

The PUB has spent more than \$5.6 billion over the last 25 years in developing new power stations and expanding the transmission and distribution networks to ensure that the demand for electricity is met. I am told that in the next decade, the Board expects to spend a further \$5.2 billion for the development, expansion and upgrading of the electricity supply system.

This Power System Control Centre (PSCC) project, completed at a cost of \$60 million, is part of the Board's continuing efforts to improve its service to customers. It is the computerised nerve centre of the Board's complex power system and it is manned round-the-clock. It houses the new System Control Centre, Distribution Control Centre and Electricity Service & Operations Centre.

The new System Control Centre. This centre replaces the old one which was commissioned in 1979 and has reached its maximum capacity. The new Centre is designed to cater for PUB's generation and transmission systems up to the year 2000. It involves a computer-based system to continuously monitor and coordinate the operation of the Board's power stations and the 230KV and 66KV transmission network. Any abnormal condition in any part of the generation and transmission network is immediately registered at the Control Centre's computer board. The duty engineer can then take remedial action immediately by remote control. The Centre has also a new Energy Management System to ensure that the Board's power system is operated in the most efficient and economic manner.

The Distribution Control Centre. This centre is equipped with a supervisory control and data acquisition system known as "SCADA". It will continuously monitor the operation of the 22KV distribution substations. A fault in the 22KV distribution network which causes an interruption of supply can be quickly isolated by remote control. Supply can then be restored expeditiously by switching on an alternative circuit. When fully operational in 1989, the system will monitor some 1000 22KV substations. It has the potential to be extended to 2400 substations ultimately. The concept of monitoring the lower voltage distribution network by computer is a recent innovation of the Board. The SCADA system represents a conscious effort of the PUB to continuously upgrade its operations and provide a more efficient and responsive service to its customers.

The Electricity Service & Operations Centre. This centre replaces the old Service & Operations Centre at Loke Yew Street and the Public Lighting Control Centre at Thomson Road. Customers now enjoy better service and need only dial one number at any time of the day for service in the event of an interruption of electricity supply or failure in street lighting.

The PUB works hard to keep its productivity levels high and costs low so that customers get electricity at affordable prices. It has also kept abreast of the latest technology to meet the higher expectations of its customers. I am confident that the PUB will continue to do so.

It is now my pleasure to declare the Power System Control Centre officially open.

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