

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

THE PRESIDENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 137

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 120, ESTABLISHING A HIGH-LEVEL STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE ST PAUL RIVER 2nd HYDRO POWER PLANT PROJECT (SP2) AND SOLAR INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCER (IPP), AND DIRECTING FULL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the political, economic and social components of our National Security will be enhanced and secured by a level of 'Energy Sovereignty' whereby the weight of our power generation resources sit securely within our borders as a Sovereign State;

WHEREAS, Liberia abundant river and solar radiation resources for the generation of hydro and solar power have been underutilized to date, with only the Mount Coffee Hydro Power Plant (MCHPP) generating utility scale renewable energy;

WHEREAS, Liberia has committed to supporting the COP 26 agenda (COP26 United Kingdom 2022 and COP27 Egypt 2023), and remains committed to developing affordable renewable energy generation using Liberia's associated natural resources;

WHEREAS, our international partners, the World Bank and the West African Power Pool, have been supportive in meeting our energy needs by: completing the full feasibility study for a MCHPP hydro extension of an additional 44MWp; completing a bankable feasibility study for a second 150MW hydro project on the St Paul River (SP2); considering further development of the St. Paul River hydropower cascade system including the Via Reservoir; committing to the process of identifying other donors for the remaining funding of the projects; and the World Bank committing funding for the Transaction Advisor (TA) services to facilitate the development of utility-scale solar power plants with battery energy storage by Independent Power Producer (IPP);

WHEREAS, the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) has signed a contract for the construction of a 20MWp Solar Power Plant at MCHPP, which along with the additional 44MWp MCHPP hydro extension are now fully funded and progressing under the World Bank Funded RESPITE project;

WHEREAS, the future economic and social development of our country is intrinsically linked to the development of affordable renewable energy, which is in accordance with our international COP commitments;

WHEREAS, harnessing Liberia's solar resource potential using private capital is critical to mitigate the perennial dry-season power supply deficit under a public-private partnership via an IPP model;



WHEREAS, our international partners continue to work in full coordination with the Government of Liberia, where the Minister of Mines and Energy remains the SP2 project proponent and the LEC remains the SP2 project implementation entity;

NOW THEREFORE, the Government of Liberia hereby issues this Executive Order directing the following:

- That a high-level Steering Committee (SC) for the St. Paul River's hydropower cascade system, including the Via Reservoir options and the St Paul River basin watershed management authority, and Solar Independent Power Producer (IPP), be established forthwith and remain mandated as such until the completion of all phases of development up to and including commissioning.
- 2. That the Government of Liberia directs that the high-level Steering Committee (SC) will be chaired by the Vice President of Liberia and Co-chair by the Minister of Mines and Energy as the energy sector lead, and other core members include the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, the Minister of Justice, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC), the Economic Advisor, the Chairman of the Liberia Land Authority (LLA), the Chairman of the National Investment Commission, the Executive Director of the Rural Renewable Energy Agency (RREA), and the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- 3. That the SC will meet at least once every two calendar months with core members in attendance and will provide periodic reports to the President.
- 4. That the heads of certain ministries and entities will be called upon to support the activities of the SC, as and when required, during and for, specific and relevant phases of the projects. These ministries and entities include but are not limited to: the Ministry of Public Works, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC), the Forestry Development Authority (FDA), and the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NAFAA). These ministries and entities will be directed to join, attend meetings, and support the SC to guarantee the success of the projects.
- 5. That the SC core members can request the Vice President as Chair, to adopt the composition of the SC as the projects evolves.
- 6. That the SC shall also establish a Financial Mobilization Team (FMT), as a subcomponent of the SC, tasked to directly engage potential donors and funders and which will be comprised of the Office of the Vice President, Minister of Mines and Energy, the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, and the LEC CEO for the SP2 hydropower development.



- 7. The SC shall form a Secretariat to support its meetings and activities and tasked with the oversight and follow-up on SC decisions and actions with the relevant ministries and agencies. The Secretariat will be appointed by the SC core members and will be of a level of competence, qualification, experience and capable of fully supporting the functions and decisions of the SC.
- 8. The SC will ensure, on behalf of the President and the Government of Liberia, that all Ministries and Entities of Government fully and proactively support the SP2 and Solar IPP projects and the associated environmental and social instruments including but not limited to Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Environmental Management Plan (EMP), any consultants or teams tasked in the capacity, and any associated actions required to guarantee the success of the SP2 project and Solar IPP, and to ensure fair and just treatment of any affected Liberian citizens.
- 9. All ministries and entities are to fully support the projects as requested by the SC, and equally so, full support is to be accorded to the World Bank and West African Power Pool teams and consultants tasked with delivering the projects.
- 10. That operational costs associated directly with the work of the SC, the FMT and the secretariat will be met by the SP2 project and in agreement with the donor partners and their funding protocols, rules and regulations.
- 11. That the SP2 and Solar IPP projects are deemed as critical to both our National Security and our National Economic Development.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, THIS 10 DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 2024.

Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.

PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA