Nigerian Breweries Pioneers First Solar Powered Brewery in Africa

- Nigerian Breweries Plc to install 650 kW of solar power at its Ibadan Brewery in 2019 using CrossBoundary Energy's solar technology
- Project is the first solar Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for a major company in Nigeria and for Heineken in Africa
- Solar energy plant will reduce Nigerian Breweries CO₂ emissions by over 10,000 tonnes, while providing the site with cheaper power

Lagos, Nigeria and Nairobi, Kenya 18 March 2019 – Nigerian Breweries Plc (NB) and CrossBoundary Energy are today announcing the signing of Heineken’s first solar project in Africa. CrossBoundary Energy will be installing and operating a 650 kW solar plant located at NB’s Ibadan Brewery, which will be operational in 2019.

The landmark project is the first of its kind for Nigeria – a fully-financed solar Power Purchase Agreement for a major Nigerian business customer. CrossBoundary Energy will operate the rooftop facility on behalf of Nigerian Breweries as part of a 15-year solar services agreement. Under the agreement, NB will only pay for solar power produced, receiving a single monthly bill that incorporates all maintenance, monitoring, insurance and financing costs.

The solar plant will supply 1GWh annually to the Ibadan brewery at a significant discount to their current cost of power, while reducing the site’s CO₂ emissions by over 10,000 tonnes over the lifespan of the plant.

Jordi Borrut Bel, Managing Director of Nigerian Breweries Plc stated “We are delighted to be a pioneer in the adoption of solar energy in Nigeria. The solar plant will help power our world-class brewery in Ibadan, enabling us to deliver on commitments under our ‘Brewing a Better World’ initiatives and supporting Heineken’s global ‘Drop the C’ programme for renewable energy.”

Heineken’s Drop the C programme for renewable energy aims to grow its share of production-related energy sourced from renewables from the current level of 14% to 70% by 2030. "NB’s Brewing a Better World initiative has further targeted a 40% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030", according to Martin Kochl, Supply Chain Director, Nigerian Breweries Plc.

Femi Fadugba, Head of Business Development for CrossBoundary Energy said: “We’re excited to be helping Nigerian Breweries go solar and to be providing the site with cleaner, cheaper power with no upfront investment or technical risk. I’m also proud that this flagship project – the first of its kind in Nigeria – will be launched in my family’s hometown of Ibadan.”

CrossBoundary Energy has commissioned TPN to design and build the plant as well as performing operations and maintenance immediately after commissioning. Ruud van Milligen, General Manager for TPN said: “We are grateful that we, as an Energy Solutions partner for Nigerian Breweries, and CrossBoundary Energy can contribute to the renewable goals of Nigerian Breweries with our custom-made energy solutions and best-in-class operations and maintenance operations.”

The plant will support the local employment of at least a dozen engineering, construction and maintenance professionals during installation and the 25+ year lifetime of the system, while supporting the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission’s (NERC) target of having 2,000MW of power capacity from renewables by 2020. Through financing packages like the one being offered by CrossBoundary Energy, Nigeria’s renewable energy sector can provide much-needed green jobs, tap global capital, improve access to affordable, reliable power for businesses, and enable Nigeria to fulfil its enormous economic potential. Support for the project has come from Shell
Foundation and the Solar Nigeria programme, an initiative implemented by Adam Smith International with funding from UK Aid.

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About CrossBoundary Energy (CBE) – www.crossboundaryenergy.com
CrossBoundary Energy is Africa’s first and largest operator of financed solar solutions for businesses. CBE’s solar financing allows businesses to buy solar power with no upfront cash or maintenance requirements, putting your company on the path to energy savings, growth, and a lower carbon footprint. CrossBoundary Energy has signed the first commercial and industrial solar PPAs in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Rwanda. It now has over 30MW of projects currently in operation, awarded or under construction – the largest portfolio of these assets in Africa. CrossBoundary Energy is part of the CrossBoundary Group.

About Nigerian Breweries – www.nbplc.com
Nigerian Breweries Plc is Nigeria’s pioneer and leading brewing company. Incorporated in 1946, the company has grown from its first brewery in Lagos in 1949, to its present footprint of 11 breweries, 2 Malting Plants and several depots spread across Nigeria. Nigerian Breweries produces and markets the brands Star, Gulder, Heineken, Legend, Maltina, Amstel Malta, Goldberg, Life, 33 Export, Tiger, Fayrouz, More, Climax, Williams Ale, Hi Malt, Strong bow and Malta Gold. Brewing a Better World is Nigerian Breweries’ long term approach to creating shared, sustainable value for all stakeholders; The Company, the society and the planet. It focuses on 6 core elements; Every Drop - Protecting Water Resources, Drop the C – reducing CO2 emissions, Promoting health and safety, Advocating responsible consumption, Sourcing sustainably and Growing with communities.

About Topec Nigeria (TPN) – www.TPN-Nigeria.com
Topec Nigeria (TPN) specialises in engineering turnkey energy solutions. Whether it’s setting up solar power or battery systems, assembling generators, producing control and distribution panels, general equipment testing, or operations and maintenance for your plant, we do it all and under one roof. Whatever your requirements: “Our energy keeps your running.”