



PRESS RELEASE

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DABS to Extend Power Grid to Southern Afghanistan

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN | – The officials from the Afghan Power Utility company Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkaat (DABS) signed five contracts with the total value of \$151.2 million at the Ministry of Finance today. Those contracts include the construction of a high voltage transmission line between Arghandi and Ghazni, construction of two substations in Sayadabad and Ghazni, construction oversight, technical support to improve DABS financial and corporate management, and the installation of software to enable DABS to better manage their operations.

The construction of Arghandi-Ghazni line will enable DABS to transmit power from Kabul to Kandahar, displace existing high-cost diesel generation and provide lower-cost electricity to Southern Afghanistan.

The funding for these contracts comes from USAID's Power Transmission Expansion and Connectivity (PTEC) project, designed to expand and stabilize parts of the national electric grid, reduce system losses, increase revenues and provide technical support to DABS.

“The US government places a high priority on energy because of the importance of electricity as a driver of economic growth in Afghanistan. We are committed to long-term support to Afghanistan and working with Afghans to build a better future for their country,” said Larry Sampler, USAID Assistant to the Administrator in the Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs.

For more information about USAID's programs and interview requests, please contact: Senior Development, Outreach and communications Officer Stefan Korshak (0702-626255) KabulAIDdoc@usaid.gov, <http://afghanistan.usaid.gov>

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The American people, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, have provided economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for more than 50 years.”



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