

Croatian state-owned energy utility HEP is trialing a new gas-fired cogeneration unit at its thermal power plant (TPP) Sisak which will replace its outmoded 210 MW A unit, the country's economy ministry said on Wednesday.

The new unit has 230 MW of electricity generation capacity and 50 MW of heating energy capacity, the ministry said in a statement after economy minister Ivan Vrdoljak toured the TPP Sisak site.

A total of 240 million euro (\$262.3 million) have been invested in the new unit, including 152 million euro put up by HEP itself, the ministry said. The facility should be issued a usage permit in 2016.

In 2007, HEP subsidiary HEP Proizvodnja, which operates TPP Sisak, hired Russia's Technopromexport to supply the technology for the new unit. The deal was signed as part of an agreement between the Russian and Croatian governments on the repayment of the debt of the former Soviet Union to ex-Yugoslavia.

Vrdoljak said that a new 19 million euro biomass-fired unit at TPP Sisak - with an electricity output capacity of 3 MW and a heating power capacity of 10 MW, will be commissioned in early 2017.

TPP Sisak currently operates two units of 210 MW each.

HEP group owns and operates over 4,000 MW of installed generation capacity and 974 MW of heat production capacity, including 25 hydroelectric plants and eight thermal power plants fired by oil, natural gas and coal.

source: Seenews