



**OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF PARLIAMENT**  
PARLIAMENT BUILDING  
OAU DRIVE, TOWER HILL  
FREETOWN  
Tel: 232-076-615187  
E-mail: [admin@parliament.gov.sl](mailto:admin@parliament.gov.sl)



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## **Parliament Ratifies Solar Agreement for Bo District.**



Minster Henry Macauley addressing Parliament before the ratification.

Parliament on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2015, ratified 5mw solar energy supply for Bo District.

Presenting the agreement to Parliament, the Minister of Energy and Power, Ambassador Henry Maculey noted among other things, the importance of the two agreements. Henry Macauley informed Parliament that the agreements are to purchase solar energy of 5 mega watts, between the Government of Sierra Leone and the Electricity Distribution and Supply Authority (EDSA) and Solar ERA holdings, relating to 5mw solar energy generation in the Bo District, Southern Sierra Leone.

The Minister noted the project will be completed in May 2016 and after a successful implementation, he said it will be replicated in all other districts. The Minister touched on the importance of the project noting that after a successful implementation it will be expanded to 20mw.

Making her contribution on the ratification, the Deputy Chief whip of Parliament, who also serves as the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Energy and Power, Hon. Hannah Bundu Songowa, commended President Koroma for his good initiatives in providing renewable electricity supply for the people of Bo.

She noted that the project is a clear manifestation of the President's aspirations in developing the country.

Hon. Rado yokie representing the people of Bo, appreciated the Agreement for the provision of electricity supply for the people of Bo, but cautioned that such agreement should involve all stakeholders in the process.

Hon. Kai-Samba from Kenema, lauded the venture for the solar energy supply for the people of Bo, but pleaded with the Ministry of Energy not to forget Kenema District in power generation.

The Hon. Paramount Chief of Bo, Prince Ippia, also commended the Government for the initiative in addressing the challenge of electricity for the Bo community.

The Acting Minority Leader, Hon. Ansu Kai\_Kai applauded the agreement, while the Majority leader and Leader of Government Business, Hon. Ibrahim Bundu, thanked Government for the agreement, noting that the project is owned and controlled by Sierra Leoneans, which is good for the Local Content policy. Hon. Bundu urged the Parliamentary Oversight Committee on Energy and Power to monitor the project implementation.