

Syrian officials to QNA: Qatar's electric power support Is qualitative step toward National economic recovery



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Damascus, August 4 (QNA) – Syrian officials and experts affirmed that Qatar's support for the energy sector eases the financial burden on the Syrian government and improves electricity supply, positively impacting industrial and commercial activity, stabilizing the power grid, and reducing reliance on private generators.

Senior Economic Advisor Dr. Osama al-Kadi said Azeri gas, delivered via Kilis, will boost electricity production by 1,000 megawatts. This will lower electricity costs, increase industrial and agricultural productivity, and extend electricity supply by four to five hours daily. He praised Qatar's continued support, noting its previous contribution of 400 megawatts. He also highlighted Saudi Arabia's cooperation and regional grid connection as key to strengthening Syria's economy and investment climate.

Eng. Khaled Abu Di, Director General of Syria's Electricity Transmission Corporation, stated that technical challenges relate to gas pressure and infrastructure. Power plants in central and southern Syria have 4,000 MW capacity but generate only 1,000 MW. He noted transmission capacity now reaches 7,000 MW after rehabilitating high-voltage lines and transformer stations.

Abu Di said the first phase supplied gas via Jordan to the south, while the second phase uses the Aleppo plant through Turkiye. Teams are ensuring gas pressure to reach efficient plants, expecting 8–10 hours of supply. Sustainability depends on regional cooperation and agreements. The project will reduce reliance on costly generators and environmental pollution, supporting clean energy and economic sustainability.

Dr. Hassan Ghara, from Jusoor for Studies, called Qatar's USD 760 million support a strategic step amid an 80% power deficit. He said Syria needs USD 40 billion to rebuild its sector. The second

phase adds 800 megawatts, increasing supply to 5 hours daily for over 5 million subscribers, a 40% improvement. He said the project will reduce reliance on generators, with monthly costs reaching SYP 140,000 per ampere.

He noted the project revives economic activity, especially in damaged areas, and supports industrial and agricultural recovery. The Qatari grant is part of a USD 7 billion plan to add 5,000 MW. It will stimulate investment and create job opportunities in maintenance and operations. With World Bank support, Syria is repairing infrastructure and using imported electricity for Aleppo, freeing domestic production for other regions.

Supplies for the second phase began August 2 through Azerbaijan and Turkiye to Aleppo, benefiting over five million subscribers.