

Green electricity taipei

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The Ministry of Economic Affairs aims to quadruple the nation's share of electricity from renewable sources to 90 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) by 2030, it said yesterday, as a growing number of local enterprises set goals to achieve carbon neutrality.

Renewable energy, primarily from solar and wind sources, soared more than 80 percent to 23.8 billion kWh last year from 12.7 billion kWh in 2016, Bureau of Energy data showed.

The ministry's announcement came after Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co (TSMC, ) on Tuesday said that it would not be able to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 because of a scarce supply of renewable energy in Taiwan. The world's biggest contract chipmaker joined the global corporate renewable energy initiative RE100 in 2020, committing to use only electricity from renewable sources by 2050.

"The supply of 20 million kWh is insufficient," company chairman Mark Liu () told shareholders during its annual general meeting.

The company reached net zero emissions by using renewable energy sources, and purchasing carbon credits and renewable energy certifications to offset emissions, the company said in its annual report.

Photo: Cheng I-hwa Cheng, Bloomberg

Liu urged the government to step up its renewable energy efforts and called on state-owned Taiwan Power Co (Taipower, ) to increase the supply of electricity from renewable sources.

Only 10 percent of the electricity available for local businesses is sourced from renewable energy, he said.

TSMC also said its power consumption would continue to rise as it builds more facilities in Taiwan.

More than 75 percent of its greenhouse gas emissions come from electricity consumption, it said.

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