



Press Release

Athens, June 6, 2025

PPC Group and the Hydropower Sustainability Alliance launch new partnership to strengthen sustainability practices in Greek hydropower

PPC Group, the largest clean energy company in Southeast Europe, has launched a new collaboration with the Hydropower Sustainability Alliance (HSA) to embed international best practices across its hydropower portfolio and accelerate progress towards its sustainability goals.

This partnership marks a significant step in PPC's broader strategy to lead the energy transition in Greece and the wider region, with a strong focus on environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance. As part of its efforts to accelerate the decarbonisation of the energy mix, PPC is advancing ambitious plans to phase out Lignite plants and repurpose former lignite pits for pumped storage hydropower (PSH), among other projects.

In May 2025, senior representatives from HSA met with PPC's executive team in Athens to launch the partnership and begin a programme of capacity building and project-level engagement. The visit included Certified User training for 32 PPC staff, equipping them to use the [Hydropower Sustainability Standard \(HSS\)](#) as a tool to assess and improve the ESG performance of their existing and under development hydropower and PSH projects.

Further activities are planned throughout 2025, including self-assessments of selected projects, and an Internal Assessor Training. The partnership also includes plans to conduct an official assessment of a PPC hydropower project later this year, with a view to pursuing certification under the HSS.

PPC Group's Chief Sustainability Officer, Achilleas Ioakeimidis, stated: *"PPC is undergoing a holistic transformation with the aim of achieving net-zero GHG emissions across the value chain by 2040. As part of this transformation, we are firmly committed to embedding the highest standards of sustainability into every aspect of our operations. Hydropower plays a pivotal role in our clean energy strategy, and adopting the Hydropower Sustainability Standard is a key step in ensuring that our hydropower and PSH projects meet rigorous environmental, social, and governance criteria. Our partnership with the Hydropower Sustainability Alliance supports our vision to lead the energy transition in Greece and Southeast Europe in a responsible and transparent manner."*

João Costa, Executive Director of the Hydropower Sustainability Alliance, said: *"This collaboration with PPC represents a strong commitment to sustainability and*

international good practice in hydropower development. PPC is showing leadership across the region by embedding ESG excellence into the heart of its operations, rooted in the Hydropower Sustainability Standard. We are proud to support their journey through training, capacity building and project assessments, and we look forward to seeing their ambition translated into tangible impact."

The Hydropower Sustainability Standard provides a globally recognised framework for evaluating and certifying hydropower and PSH projects against rigorous sustainability criteria. By adopting this standard, PPC Group aims to further strengthen its position as one of Europe's most responsible and forward-looking energy companies.

Information for editors

About PPC Group

PPC, founded in 1950, is the leading South-East European electric utility Group, with activities in electricity generation, distribution and sale of advanced energy products and services in Greece, Romania and North Macedonia.

PPC has a total installed capacity of 12.4GW, consisting of thermal, hydro and RES installations with a total annual generation amounting to approximately 22TWh, while the total Regulated Asset Base of its networks amounted to €4.9bn approximately at the end of 2024. PPC Group is the leading energy supplier in Greece and Romania, servicing 8.8m customers in total, providing them with approximately 33TWh of electricity and a wide range of energy products and services.

The Group's Strategic transformation plan is based on three key pillars: (i) Clean and resilient generation portfolio, through the ramp-up of Renewables investments and the decarbonization of its business with an accelerated phase out plan of lignite, (ii) Modernization of its distribution networks with the application of new technologies across all business activities and (iii) Customer centric retail services.

PPC is publicly listed since 2001 and its shares are traded on the Main Market of the Athens Exchange.

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About the Hydropower Sustainability Alliance and the Hydropower Sustainability Standard:

The **Hydropower Sustainability Alliance** works to drive positive change in the hydropower sector by building knowledge, promoting accountability, empowering people and embedding sustainable practices.

The **Hydropower Sustainability Standard (HSS)** is a robust assessment and certification framework that ensures accountability in hydropower development. It charts a path for harnessing hydropower's potential to drive positive impact, benefiting both communities and our environment. The HSS propels the responsible growth of this essential energy source, balancing progress with safeguarding our world.



The HSS is governed by a multi-stakeholder body, the **Hydropower Sustainability Council (HS Council)**. This governing body includes representatives from governments, industry, civil society and financiers. This inclusive approach to governance ensures that all stakeholder voices are heard in the shaping of the use of the HS Standard.

Certification is carried out by accredited independent assessors, ensuring credibility and consistency across all regions and project types.

Learn more: www.hs-alliance.org

Find HSA on LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/hydropower-sustainability-alliance/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hydropower-sustainability-alliance/)

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