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LEGISLATION AND ENERGY POLICY FOR GREENING ELECTRICITY IN MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES.

(Case study: United Arab Emirates)

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This Thesis was submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Master's Degree of Engineering Project Management

Faculty of Graduate Studies

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COMMITTEE DECISION

This Thesis (LEGISLATION AND ENERGY POLICY FOR GREENING ELECTRICITY IN MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES, (Case study: United Arab Emirates)) Was Successfully Defended and Approved on ------

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Acknowledgment

Praises be to Allah, who empowered me to do this research. I am very grateful to my principal supervisor, Dr.Waild Emar for his guidance on my research and his deep remarkable suggestions. He was always friendly, supportive, helpful and modern in his teaching approach. I would like to extend my thanks to the faculty members who have enriched my knowledge and have added great value to my perspectives of scientific research.

I owe to my parents for their ceaseless support. Unforgettably, I highly value the great sacrifice and support of my wife, Engineer Esraa Alabdoh, and my daughter Mira, which have heightened my determination to pursue this study. As well as contributed tremendously for the successful completion of this work.

I would like to convey my immense thanks and sincere appreciation to my friend Mr.Mousa Abu Sbeih, who has encouraged me to pursue my master degree. Also, my immense thanks and great appreciation also goes to Mr.Khalil Alajarmeh for his support during the study period.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS OR SYMBOLS

GIS Geographical information system

GDP Global domestic product

EMRC Energy & Minerals Regulatory Commission

MEMR Ministry Of Energy and Mineral Resources

GWh Giga watt hour

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

MCDM Multi-Criteria Decision Method

DNI Direct normal irradiance

CSP Concentrated solar power

PV Photovoltaic

OPEC Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

IEA International Energy Agency

UNFCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

toe Tonne of oil equivalent

GHG Greenhouse gas

ADEREE Agency for the Development of Renewable Energies and Energy

Efficiency

MASDAR Future Energy Company

mtCo2e Metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent

IPP Independent Power Producer

DEWA Dubai electricity and water authority

ADPC Abu Dhabi Power Corporation

RSB Abu Dhabi regulation and supervision Bureau

IWPP Independent water and power producers

ADWEA Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority

SBM Single Buyer Model

ADWEC Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Company

BOO Build Own Operate

PWPA Power Purchase Agreements

IWPP Independent water and power producers

TRANSCO Abu Dhabi Transmission and Dispatch Company

ADDC Abu Dhabi Distribution Company

LCOE levelized cost of energy

AADC Al-Ain Distribution Company

ADNOC The National Oil Company

JV Joint Venture Model

FIT Feed-in-Tariff

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, countries have begun to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and replace them with renewable energy sources in an effort to mitigate the effects of fossil fuels on the environment and save money as well as increase energy security. There is no doubt that the regulatory component represented by policies and legislation are the most important means to achieve the desired goals and strategies. The UAE does not yet have a renewable energy law and is still working on the Electricity law No.2 of 1998, which did not address the issue of electricity production from renewable sources and treat with electricity generated from sustainable sources as electricity produced from fossil fuel sources and what implies high coast compared to non-renewable source in short term. As besides, the UAE did not produce a map representing the best locations for installing large-scale renewable energy projects. There are few studies that touched on renewable energy legislation in the Arab world and in the UAE in

particular. During this study, the Electricity Law of the UAE was analyzed and special recommendations were made for renewable energy legislation in the light of these analyzes. The experience of the State of Jordan, Palestine, Morocco and some Western countries such as Germany in the field of renewable energy policies was used as recommendation for UAE's policy makers. It was concluded that the UAE does not encourage the private sector to join renew renewable energy projects due to its application of the joint venture model with the private sector, and government subsidies on household sector are not an incentive for individuals to implement renewable energy projects. The proposed solution is the implementation of some incentives and mandatory policies in the field of renewable energy such as Feed-In-Tariff, Wheeling policy and Net-Metering in conjunction with the quota policy, as well as the exploitation of the lands of the Empty Quarter to establish renewable energy projects and through the establishment of free zones, exempted from taxes and customs duties, allowed the activates of generating green electricity inside and wheeling it outside The thesis has developed the suitability map for the installation of large-scale CSP projects among United Arab Emirates using GIS data and Multi-Criteria Decision Method (MCDM) technique. the suitability map is composed of multi-maps (layers) of solar irradiation (Direct Normal irradiance (DNI) component), land slope, protected areas, land use, proximity to water bodies and power grid as well as the roads. This thesis has highlighted the most-suitable location as well as the non-suitable location among UAE to install CSP projects using ArcGis software. The study has shown that UAE have multi-hotspot locations that can be used for CSP projects installation as well as great solar energy potential that could attract more investments in the same sector.