

# Karpowership cuts Guinea-Bissau supply for unpaid bills

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Guinea-Bissau's capital was plunged into darkness on Tuesday after Turkish company Karpowership cut off electricity supplies to the West African nation due to an unpaid debt of \$17m, the economy minister said.



Karpowership Mehmet Bey. Source: Karpowership.com

Minister Suleimane Seidi said arrangements were under way to pay \$15m of arrears owed by the Electricity and Water Company of Guinea-Bissau and promised the issue would be resolved within 15 days.



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Umaru Fofana 8 Sep 2023



Karpowership, one of the world's largest operators of floating power plants and part of the Karadeniz Energy Group, has been supplying 100% of Guinea-Bissau's electricity needs since signing a deal in 2019, according to its website.

"Karpower has agreed to renegotiate with the government to ensure that the backlog does not become a problem," Seidi said at a press conference.

In a statement on the situation in Guinea-Bissau, a Karpowership spokesperson said: "Unfortunately, following a protracted period of nonpayment, our (floating power plant) is now unable to continue operating."

"We are working around the clock with officials to resolve this issue, and we aim to have generation back online as soon as possible," the statement said.

In September, Karpowership switched off the electricity supply to Sierra Leone's capital Freetown due to an unpaid debt of around \$40m.

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