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HSBC Vietnam grants VND900 billion bilateral green loan to REE Corporation

Loan proceeds used to develop E-Town 6, a high-rise office building

***For the first time HSBC has offered a green loan to finance a real estate project
for a Vietnamese corporate***

****It underlines HSBC Vietnam's commitment to arrange up to US\$12 billion
in sustainable financing in Vietnam by 2030****

(Ho Chi Minh City) – HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. (HSBC Vietnam) is the sole bank to arrange a green loan of VND900 billion for Refrigeration Electrical Engineering Corporation (REE Corporation). This loan deal will help one of the Vietnamese leading multi-sector corporations complete E-Town 6, a high-rise office building that has earned the LEED Platinum certification for its sustainable design. This is the first time HSBC has arranged a green loan to finance a real estate project for a Vietnamese corporate.

The seven-year term loan has reaffirmed the HSBC's leading position in providing sustainable financial solutions to businesses in Vietnam. In order to achieve this green financing, REE Corporation completed HSBC's stringent credit approval and management process for sustainable financing. The process is overseen by HSBC Asia Pacific Sustainable Loans Committee, the dedicated body of the bank with rich experience in successfully arranging green financing in different fields around the world. The green facility must also meet the high standards listed under the international Green Loan Principles, jointly issued by Loan Market Association and Asia Pacific Loan Market Association. It includes four core components: use of proceeds, project selection and evaluation, management of proceeds and reporting.

"This green loan facility reaffirms HSBC and REE's strong, long-lasting relationship and our combined strong ambition towards contributing to Vietnam's transition to net zero. Together we can play our part in helping to build a better and greener Vietnam for future generations," said Tim Evans, CEO of HSBC Vietnam, "We are very proud to play our part in a deal that marks another milestone for the green real estate sector in Vietnam. This is especially important when one considers that construction and real estate are responsible for up to 39% of all carbon emissions globally."

Mr. Huynh Thanh Hai, CEO of REE Corporation, shared: "E-Town 6 project is the newest office building in the area of E-Town Cong Hoa campus, expected to come into operation in the second half of 2023. The green loan for this project aims to reaffirm the strong and long-term relationship between HSBC and REE Corporation, as well as illustrate our contribution to developing green business activities, thereby contributing to the development of green and cleaner products in Vietnam. Once again, REE is very grateful for HSBC's time and effort to this green credit."

In 2020, REE SE and REEPRO, two subsidiaries of REE Corporation, also successfully received the first dual green loans – worth a total of VND810 billion – from HSBC Vietnam to finance a major rooftop solar energy project. Always ready to support clients by leveraging its global expertise and extensive local knowledge, all these transactions are contributing to

HSBC Vietnam's execution of its commitment to arrange up to US\$12 billion of direct and indirect sustainable financing in Vietnam by 2030.

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Notes to Editors:

E-Town 6 project

E-Town 6 project is the newest office building in the area of E-Town Cong Hoa campus, including 5 basements and 17 floors with a total area of 78,000 m². The project has a total investment capital of more than US\$70 million. This building is expected to come into operation at the end of the third quarter of 2023.

E-Town 6 is the largest building ever built by REE Group, this building is designed according to LEED Platinum standard - the highest green building standard of the US Green Building Council (USGBC). This building meets the main criteria such as using electricity from renewable energy sources such as rooftop solar and using equipment with advanced technology to reduce electricity consumption by more than 30%, moreover it also uses water recovered from rainwater and condensate to optimize more than 50% of water use, minimize CO² emissions and use environmentally friendly building materials.

LEED certification

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), created by the U.S. Green Building Council in 2000, is the rating system that assesses buildings based on its cost-saving, efficiency improvement, lower carbon emissions and healthier places, through a list of measured categories in carbon, energy, water, waste, transportation, materials, health and indoor environmental quality. In this system, LEED Platinum is the highest level of sustainability achievement and leadership. By July 2022, more than 9,000 projects earned the Platinum certification worldwide. In Vietnam, over 300 projects have been LEED certified to date, only 11 of them reached the Platinum level.

HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd.

HSBC has been in Vietnam for over 150 years – the bank first opened an office in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in 1870. HSBC was the first foreign bank to launch its locally incorporated entity on 1 January 2009 as HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. The bank's current network includes two branches and five transaction offices in Ho Chi Minh City, one branch and four transaction offices in Hanoi, and two full-service branches in Binh Duong and Da Nang. HSBC is one of the largest foreign banks in the country in terms of investment capital, product range, and customer base.

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