

QRB Labs

ICT Solutions PLC

PO Box 23869/1000 Addis Abeba, Ethiopia

et@qrb-labs.com



Oct 29, 2025

Re: "New Electricity tariffs for data mining customers" – EEP Oct 27, 2025

The new electricity pricing announced by Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) proposes a 30% increase in energy prices in December 2025, followed by additional increases of 24% in July 2026 and 28% in July 2027.

These changes would substantially reduce the competitiveness of Ethiopia's high energy data center industry. At the proposed rates, approximately half of all Bitcoin mining operations currently in Ethiopia would become unprofitable by mid-2026, and over 90% by 2027. The resulting contraction would reduce annual electricity revenues by an estimated \$100 million by late 2026 and over \$300 million by 2027.

International comparisons show that Ethiopia already faces higher effective energy costs than major markets such as Texas, where Bitcoin miners access stranded energy at an average of 2.8¢/kWh. The current proposal risks eliminating a growing digital export sector that contributes both foreign exchange and grid-balancing demand.

More than \$500M of capital investment has been made in Ethiopia in this sector, investments which will now struggle to break even. This type of risk undermines confidence in the country as a destination for investment in data centers, and other capital intensive technology investments.

QRB Labs proposes a phased, location-based approach within a comprehensive electricity pricing strategy that will help accelerate the electrification of the country. Specifically:

1. Immediate, region-based pricing reflective of demand and capacity.
2. Pilot market-based pricing for excess capacity.
3. Gradually evolve toward real-time market pricing.

For more details, please see the QRB Labs white paper: [Electricity Pricing Strategy for Ethiopia](#)

QRB Labs remains committed to working collaboratively with policymakers to support Ethiopia's electrification while developing viable digital industries.