

Kongres Container

Cuba household off-grid energy storage power station



Overview

Should Cuba update its energy grid?

While small-scale, such renewable energy initiatives can reduce pressure on the energy grid and provide relief in especially vulnerable places. Due to rising temperatures and increasingly unreliable energy infrastructure, action to update Cuba's energy grid is urgently necessary.

Why has Cuba's energy grid collapsed four times in the last 6 months?

On top of that, Cuba's entire grid has collapsed four times in the last six months. The problem stems from years of neglect of Cuba's energy infrastructure, exacerbated by constrained access to foreign capital and a failure to adapt to new energy options.

How is power produced in Cuba?

About 40.6% of Cuba's power generation is produced in thermal power plants, 21.7% with fuel oil engines, and 21.9% with diesel engines. Almost 8% is produced with the accompanying gas from oil production, 5% comes from renewable energy sources (hydro, solar, and wind), and the remaining 3% is produced by floating units (thermal power barges).

Why does Cuba have a bad energy system?

Cuba's energy system also suffers from years of reliance on domestic, poor-quality heavy crude oil, which is corrosive because it's high in sulfur. This has accelerated the wear and tear on boilers, turbines, and pipes in Cuba's power plants, shortening their life spans and causing frequent and costly outages.

How can Cuba build a more resilient energy system?

Building a Cleaner, More Resilient Energy System in Cuba recommends numerous ways by which domestic policy in Cuba can prioritize working towards a more sustainable, resilient grid — especially by investing in the energy transition — and ways in which international cooperation can support

these goals.

How much of Cuba's energy is renewable?

The government set a goal of deriving 37 percent of Cuba's energy from renewable sources by 2030; so far they've reached only 3 percent. Cuba is actively looking to partner internationally on energy initiatives. Agreements with Russia primarily focus on modernizing existing thermal facilities and possibly constructing new ones.

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