

Kongres Container

Solar power station energy storage procurement in the Republic of South Africa



Overview

South Africa's Department of Electricity and Energy has awarded preferred bidder status for a combined 1.29 GW of solar PV and 615 MW/2.46 GWh of battery storage capacity under two major procurement programs aimed at accelerating clean energy deployment. Is Scatec launching a battery energy storage project in South Africa?

In October 2024, Scatec reached financial close for a battery energy storage project totalling 103 MW/ 412 MWh by the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy in South Africa under the Battery Energy Storage Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (BESIPPPP). The power will be dispatched under a 15-year PPA.

Does South Africa have a battery storage tender programme?

South Africa is aiming to procure utility-scale battery storage with two tender programmes: its Battery Storage IPP Procurement Programme as well as hybrid battery storage and variable renewables projects through its Risk Mitigation IPP Procurement Programme.

Where will the battery energy storage project be implemented?

The Project will be implemented at approximately 17 sites, located within or adjacent to existing distribution substations of Eskom, across four provinces of South Africa. The Battery Energy Storage Project (Project) provides a solution to address both challenges.

What is a battery energy storage IPP tender?

In November 2023, South Africa announced preferred bidders for the first Battery Energy Storage IPP Procurement Programme tender, which - if all implemented in full - would add 360 MW of dispatchable battery storage capacity to the national grid, and are now expected to enter into power purchase agreements (PPAs) negotiations with Eskom.

What is the battery energy storage programme?

The evaluation process, conducted by an Independent Bid Evaluation Committee under strict security measures, took place at the IPP Office. The Battery Energy Storage Programme is a critical initiative aimed at enhancing South Africa's power system by providing essential ancillary services and increasing grid capacity through energy storage.

Why is battery storage important in South Africa?

In South Africa, battery storage is increasingly seen as a key pillar to help provide grid stability and integrate variable renewables given its ageing coal-fired power fleet and grid.

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