

What makes Antarctica a good place to store energy?

A room full of classic lead-acid batteries enables the station to store energy for times when demands exceeds the current energy production. While the renewable energy systems that power the station are reliable and continuously checked, even in the harsh conditions of Antarctica, two generators were installed for security and backup.

Why did Antarctica have two generators?

While the renewable energy systems that power the station are reliable and continuously checked, even in the harsh conditions of Antarctica, two generators were installed for security and backup. They are also used to provide scheduled full load cycles which are part of the battery bank life performance.

Why are there so many wind turbines in Antarctica?

The katabatic winds on the Antarctic continent provided the answer to that issue, as the wind gusts from the plateau are as fierce in the winter as they are in the summer. Along the ridge of the Princess Elisabeth Station are nine wind turbines, installed by the IPF crew to complement the solar installations.

Will hydrogen fuel cells be used in Antarctica?

In the future, the station's engineering team plans to install hydrogen fuel cells as an additional intermediary backup system. Two of the most omnipresent features of Antarctic weather (during the Austral summer) are the wind and the sun. Two renewable sources that provide free energy to the "zero emission" Princess Elisabeth Antarctica.

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Photovoltaic Solar Panels. These solar panels cover most of the surface of the "zero emission" Princess Elisabeth Station and the roof of the technical spaces. The panels feed the smart grid of the station with electricity, while any excess production is stored in the batteries.

The solar panels were sourced from Germany's Aleo Solar, while the inverters came from Austria's Fronius. Australian Antarctic Division engineers undertook wind modelling, produced...

The ABB solution will include the solar inverter UNO-DM-6.0-TL (6 kW at 230VAC 1ph), MCB 40A 2-pole and RCD 40A 300mA 2-pole, 24 ground-mounted solar panels JINKO 270W (12 modules per string), and a

connection to ABB's Aurora Vision Plant Management portal via the inverter's embedded WI-FI interface.

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A 3kVA Multiplus inverter/charger offers residents the comfort of home. It is capable of charging the batteries from the generator, if that should be required, and its PowerAssist feature combines battery power and generator power - greatly extending the capability of the installation.

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After successfully proving its reliability and durability in the first installation, the ABB solution included its solar inverter UNO-DM-6.0-TL (6kW at 230VAC 1ph), MCB 40A 2-pole and RCD 40A 300mA 2-pole, 24 ground-mounted solar panels JINKO 270W (12 modules per string), and a connection to ABB's Aurora Vision Plant Management portal via the ...

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