

Who is implementing a battery energy storage system in Kenya?

Nairobi, Friday, November 24, 2023: Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen), has been earmarked as the Implementing Agency for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) as part of the Kenya Green and Resilient Expansion of Energy (GREEN) program, funded by the World Bank.

Does Kenya need battery energy storage?

A battery energy storage. The question of power storage has become critical as Kenya embraces e-mobility which requires reliable power supplies. The Energy and Petroleum ministry targets to mainstream power storage in its electricity master plan as the country's renewable energy generation expands.

What is a battery energy storage system (BESS)?

The BESS will serve as a crucial repository for surplus energy generated from geothermal and Variable Renewable Energy (VRE) sources, enabling improved electricity service delivery to Kenyans. "KenGen is honoured to lead the implementation of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project under the GREEN program.

What are the opportunities for utility scale battery energy storage systems?

There are opportunities for Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Two thirds of Kenya's electricity is generated from renewable/clean energy sources. Of this, wind power accounts for 15% (435MW) while solar accounts for just under 2% of total installed capacity (51MW) with these numbers expected to continue to grow.

What drives demand for industrial battery systems?

Demand for industrial battery systems is being driven by increasing reliance on intermittent energy sources such as wind and solar power and the potential to add energy to the grid quickly when power needs spike.

Can a 50MW wind power plant be built in Kenya?

Separately on September 9, 2019, the US Trade and Development Agency awarded a grant to Kenya's Craftskills Energy Limited for a feasibility study by an American firm, Delphos International for the development of a 50MW wind power plant with integrated battery storage capacity in Kenya.

The emergence of battery energy storage systems (BESS) as a solution to the intermittency of renewable energy has gained significant attention in the energy transition. These systems are being recognized for their ability to deliver multiple benefits and solutions that can enhance the stability and reliability of the grid by addressing critical ...

Independent Power Producers (IPPs) are urging electrical sector players to use battery energy storage systems

as one of the approaches to assure Kenya's electricity supply stability.

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Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) offer a solution, through energy and capacity services, ancillary services, and investment deferral, to help integrate greater amounts of renewable energy, manage the grid effectively, while simultaneously creating economic opportunities.

The LCPDP's demand forecast includes Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to be used to support the integration of variable renewable energy technologies and system support. BESS features prominently in the generation capacity expansion plan which includes 50MW of BESS in the generation mix by 2022 with the number rising to 250MW by 2026.

The BESS will be utilized in the storage of excess energy generated by geothermal plants and help address grid instability arising from high levels of intermittent power by providing load balancing power to the grid.

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This comes amid a gradual shift by Kenya towards the utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) technology concepts which have picked up pace globally as renewable energy generation expands. The Energy Ministry in its Least Cost Power Development Plan 2021-2030 (LCPDP) includes BESS as a key in supporting the integration of variable ...

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Kenya is among several African countries that have formally expressed interest to join the Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Consortium, launched Saturday during COP28, which could change Africa's energy landscape by developing advanced energy storage solutions through collaboration and innovation.

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