

Will renewables bring relief to vulnerable Tongans?

In March, it signed a memorandum of understanding with an Irish-based wave energy company called Seabased to develop a 10-megawatt wave power park off the main island of Tongatapu. Albert Vaea (far right) says he wants renewables to bring "meaningful relief" to vulnerable Tongans. (Supplied: Seabased)

Could Tonga pioneer wave power technology in the Pacific?

Tonga could pioneer the use of wave power technology in the Pacific. (Supplied: SPTO) Power prices are affecting communities around the world and in the small island nation of Tonga -- home to just over 100,000 people -- they are feeling the pinch. "I think it's way too high."

How is energy collected in Tonga?

"There's a host of different ways to collect the energy, but the one in Tonga will be a point source absorber and it will sit in the water and move up and down as the wave passes over the top," he said. "Inside it is a generator that will spin and create electricity."

How much does electricity cost in Tonga?

According to UK-based aggregate website Cable, Tonga's electricity is the 13th most expensive in the world, at an average cost of US35 cents (52 cents) per kilowatt hour (kWh). The research, released in late 2021, analysed 230 countries and found Oceania was the most expensive region in the world, with an average of US30 cents per kWh.

How will a 'point source absorber' work in Tonga?

Ray Wills is the managing director of business advisory firm Future Smart, and chairs a number of green technology companies. "There's a host of different ways to collect the energy, but the one in Tonga will be a point source absorber and it will sit in the water and move up and down as the wave passes over the top," he said.

Are power prices too high in Tonga?

Power prices are affecting communities around the world and in the small island nation of Tonga -- home to just over 100,000 people -- they are feeling the pinch. "I think it's way too high. Very high in comparison with current salary ranges here in Tonga at the moment," Tonga resident Mapa Taumalolo said.

This project aims to help Tonga move away from fossil fuels and shift to renewables. The project will deliver utility-scale storage systems to provide base load response and grid stability, paving the way for more renewable energy integration in the main island, while green mini-grids will be installed in the outer islands.

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Tonga Power Limited is Tonga's sole electricity provider. We generate, distribute and sell electricity to more than 25,000 plus customers in the Kingdom of Tonga, including the outer islands of "Eua, Ha"apai & Vava"u.

These projects will help enable Tonga to reach its 70 per cent renewable energy generation target in 2025. The funding will also support Tonga Power Limited to stabilise electricity supply and ...

Tonga Power Ltd is a government-owned vertically integrated utility that generates and distributes electricity to the 4 main island groups of the Kingdom Of Tonga. Tonga Power's core business is generating, distributing and retailing electric power across our four-grid system within Tonga consisting of more than 25,000 customers.

The battery systems connect to the grid of Tonga Power, Tonga's sole electric utility, which announced the inauguration event today via a sponsored post in local news outlet ...

The battery systems connect to the grid of Tonga Power, Tonga's sole electric utility, which announced the inauguration event today via a sponsored post in local news outlet Matangi Tonga Online. Installation and commissioning work was carried out by contractor Akuo, which supplied containerised BESS solutions.

These projects will help enable Tonga to reach its 70 per cent renewable energy generation target in 2025. The funding will also support Tonga Power Limited to stabilise electricity supply and reduce power outages through the replacement of ageing generators.

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