

New energy storage in South Africa





Overview

The Red Sands project will be the largest standalone BESS to reach this stage on the continent, designed to store power during off-peak hours and release it when demand is highest—providing essential grid stability and flexibility for South Africa's electricity network. Are large energy storage projects coming to South Africa?

It's great to see more large energy storage projects coming online in South Africa. Just 2 months ago, Eskom unveiled another large battery storage project. Eskom's Hex site is specifically designed to store 100MWh of energy, enough to power a town such as Mossel Bay or Howick for about five hours.

Why is South Africa a leader in solar and battery storage?

With this strategic pivot to solar and battery storage, South Africa not only asserts its commitment to sustainable development but also positions itself as a leader in the ecological transition on the African continent. Discover details on South Africa's strategic shift towards renewable energy with new solar and battery storage projects.

What is the largest battery energy storage system in Africa?

Unveiled in 2023, thanks to \$195 million from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and \$220 million from AfDB, this flagship project represents the largest battery energy storage system (BESS) on the African continent.

How does battery storage work in South Africa?

Battery storage systems offer a solution by storing surplus energy generated during peak production periods and releasing it when demand is high, ensuring a consistent and reliable power supply. The South African government has acknowledged the potential of battery storage and has set ambitious targets for its deployment.



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