Brazil grid-scale energy storage

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The inauguration of the 30MW/60MWh system took place last year, on the networks of transmission system operator (TSO) ISO CTEEP, as reported by Energy-Storage.news in November.

ISO CTEEP claimed it as the first large-scale battery energy storage system (BESS) on Brazil’s transmission grid. The project required a total US$27 million investment. The transmission operator is permitted by regulations to earn up to US$5 million revenues from the asset each year.

It will help increase hosting capacity to cope with expected increase in demand on a congested network enabling the TSO to defer from investing in a more expensive traditional transmission line, making this project an example of a "non-wires alternative" or storage-as-a-transmission asset.

It will also help reduce reliance on fossil fuel peaker plants, which can be among the most polluting and expensive generating units to run on the grid, despite typically having a low capacity factor through only coming into use infrequently during the year"s peak events.

US technology company Fractal EMS said yesterday that it worked on integrating the system, together with Brazilian energy storage solutions provider You.On, which was selected for the project through a competitive tender process.

Fractal EMS provided the energy management system (EMS) controls, SCADA and other components to system integrator You.On. Meanwhile You.On selected inverters from manufacturer Kehua, while the BESS is equipped with CATL"s liquid cooled battery storage solution.

Fractal EMS CEO Daniel Crotzer said the Brazilian energy storage market "presents a significant growth opportunity," claiming battery storage could "propelBrazilto 100% clean energy".

The TSO announced the energising of the BESS yesterday (29 November), which it said made it the first TSO to have a large-scale storage system on the country’s transmission network.

It didn’t disclose the location but said the BESS would be discharged during peak demand periods to support the electricity network, increasing the security and reliability of the service. A press release indicated the system has a two-hour discharge generation, making its capacity 60MWh.

ISA CTEEP is active in 17 of the 26 states in Brazil and transmits approximately 30% of all electricity produced in the country, and is part of the ISA Group, which is active in other LATAM countries.

Juan Emilio Posada Echeverri, president of ISA Group, said: “This project has provided us with great

learning and we believe that, due to its pioneering nature, it will be a great laboratory for the sector and for the other ISA companies.

“Precisely, one of the great challenges of the energy transition for ISA is the adaptation of the existing network and achieving a better use of the available capacity. In this sense, batteries are a sample of how technology and innovation enable increasingly flexible and intelligent systems, maintaining reliability and resilience as a priority.”

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