

Chile microgrid operation

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Merino, C.; Castro, R. Optimization of a Hybrid Solar–Wind Microgrid for Sustainable Development: A Case Study in Antofagasta, Chile. Sustainability 2024, 16, 3668. <https://doi/10.3390/su16093668>

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Merino, Carlos, and Rui Castro. 2024. "Optimization of a Hybrid Solar–Wind Microgrid for Sustainable Development: A Case Study in Antofagasta, Chile" Sustainability 16, no. 9: 3668. <https://doi/10.3390/su16093668>

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Rome, Calama, May 31st, 2017 - Enel, through its subsidiary Enel Green Power Chile Ltda. ("EGPC") has started operations at the world's first 100% emission-free "plug-and-play" commercial-sized micro-grid powered by solar PV as well as hydrogen-based and lithium-based storage. The facility is currently meeting part of the energy needs of the camp that hosts over 600 technicians working at the company's geothermal plant Cerro Pabell?n, located in Ollag?e in the Antofagasta region.

Antonio Cammisecra, Head of Enel's Global Renewable Energies Division Enel Green Power commented: "This groundbreaking project shows that it is possible to build fully renewables-powered micro-grids

capable of delivering efficient, zero-emission energy without interruptions. With this project, we have achieved a new milestone in our R& D work with the aim of creating systems that facilitate energy access to isolated areas, in line with our commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goal number 7, ensuring universal access to affordable and clean energy."

The facility can work both on-grid and off-grid: it can be connected to a grid, like it is now supporting the network delivering electricity to the Cerro Pabellón camp, or operate autonomously. In addition, it offers a "plug-and-play" solution as its components can be easily removed, re-assembled and installed in a new location, which is particularly helpful in remote, poorly electrified areas.

Enel Green Power, the Renewable Energies division of Enel Group, is dedicated to the development and operation of renewables across the world, with a presence in Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa and Oceania. Enel Green Power is a global leader in the green energy sector with a managed capacity of 38 GW across a generation mix that includes wind, solar, geothermal, biomass and hydropower, and is at the forefront of integrating innovative technologies like storage systems into renewables power plants.

Microgrids are groupings of distributed energy generation and storage equipment, such as photovoltaic solar roofs, small solar and wind producers, and batteries, which supply locally and in a coordinated manner to a set of electricity users. They exist in various sizes and configurations, but in all cases they respond to the need to efficiently and safely operate local energy resources, either in isolation or in connection with a larger electrical network.

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