



Dominican republic nico residential energy storage

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Construction has started on the first major solar-plus-storage project in the Dominican Republic, which features a 24.8MW/99MWh battery energy storage system (BESS).

The Caribbean nation's president Luis Abinader attended the ceremony to launch the project, which will feature 101.152MWp of solar PV. The attached four-hour BESS will help to shift that power into periods of lower generation.

The CNE said that Dominicana Azul will generate 176.4GWh of energy a year for dispatch on the National Interconnected Energy System (SENI or Sistema Energético Nacional Interconectado), reducing 1000 tons of CO2 emissions.

The project, which is being built in the municipality of Cabrera, Mar?a Trinidad S?nchez province, is being developed and built by Zenith Energy Corp. The country shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti to the west.

The government of the Dominican Republic has recently recognised the need for energy storage to integrate intermittent renewable energy generation, and the CNE recently issued two resolutions to kickstart the market.

The first, CNE-AD-0003-2023, declared the need for battery storage for its 'Energy Arbitration' service with primary sources of variable renewable energy in the electricity market. The second, CNE-AD-0004-2023, established the guidelines for the administrative treatment of the technology in the electricity market.

Island nations in the Caribbean and globally are deploying energy storage along with renewables to ensure dispatchable, reliable generation as they phase out fossil fuels, usually imported from abroad at very high cost.

In December, Energy-Storage.news reported on projects in the US Virgin Islands and St Kitts & Nevis being deployed by Honeywell and Leclanché respectively, while in July regulators in Barbados ordered a four-year pilot of battery storage technology using a 50MW system.

The Dominican Republic urgently needs to ramp up its energy storage capacity to stabilize its electrical system, said its Minister of Energy and Mines, Joel Santos.

Santos highlighted the importance of energy storage in the Dominican Republic's energy transition at the



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Dominican Republic Energy Storage Summit, organized by his department in collaboration with Huawei and the Latin American Energy Organization (Olade).

The stakeholders estimated that by 2028, the Dominican Republic will need to deploy between 250 to 400 MW of energy storage systems. Their projection is based on the country's current renewable energy market. According to statistics from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the Dominican Republic's total installed renewable energy capacity was 2.2 GW as of 2023.

"Solar energy is not generated at night or during times of low solar radiation, which requires resorting to storage to cover the peaks in demand that occur during those hours, when renewable generation is lower," he told the summit's attendees.

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