



Honduras energy storage for load shifting

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The public event marked the opening of bids for the energy storage procurement, called LPI-001-ENEE-UEPER-2024, for the "Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of a battery energy storage system (BESS) with a capacity of 75MW/300 MWh at the Amaratéca substation".

The news was posted on X (formerly Twitter) by secretary of state for energy Erick Tejada Carbajal, who said it is "probably the most ambitious energy storage project planned so far in Central America".

Honduras has around 750MW of installed variable renewable energy generation capacity, which meets around a quarter of its needs, and that needs to be shifted into the evening and night periods of high demand.

Six separate companies have submitted bids to build the 4-hour BESS project, and it will be implemented next year after evaluation and award phases are completed, Carbajal said.

The news follows the Electric Energy Regulatory Commission (Comisión Reguladora de Energía Eléctrica or CREE) launching a consultation in July this year to change its electricity market framework to enable the integration of large-scale energy storage onto the grid. Renewable energy capacity growth has so far been limited by its transmission system operator (TSO) CND to ensure quality and security of supply.

Energy-storage news heard at Solar Media's recent Energy Storage Summit Latin America, in Chile, that a lack of regulation was the main thing holding back the energy storage market in the region.

A major sustainable energy transition is happening in the Caribbean. Heavy fuel-based economies and vulnerability to extreme weather see the region pushing for greater resiliency and energy security. Upgrades to existing infrastructure are supporting the increased demand for energy capacity brought by tourism. So is the case off the northern coast of Honduras on the island of Roatan, where a robust sustainable energy investment strategy is accelerating the region's clean energy transition.

These energy optimisation capabilities have increased the reliability of the system, as well as prepared the Roatan hybrid power system for a shift to large-scale renewables integration. It is expected that by the end of 2021, more than 20% of the delivered island energy will come from renewable sources.

Smart energy storage system that provides virtual spinning reserve capacity to maintain the stability of the grid, particularly important for the energy security of an island grid.

Tertiary control of GEMS energy management platform that optimises the entire hybrid system, including existing power plant with Wärtsilä engines, as well as solar PV and wind.



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Increased grid reliability and a reduction in blackouts has resulted in considerably more investment towards improving the infrastructure on the island in general.

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