Lithuania energy storage for electric vehicles

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Testing has started on four battery storage projects in Lithuania totalling 200MW/200MWh provided by system integrator Fluence, with a view to turning the projects online in a few months.

Construction began on the four projects connected to substations in ?iauliai, Alytus, Utena and Vilnius in June last year, as reported by Energy-Storage.news. They will enable the country"s electricity grid to run in islanded mode as well as synchronise with the EU grid as Lithuania seeks to disconnect from the Russian energy system, a move which pre-dates the latter’s invasion of Ukraine in early 2022.

Initial tests of the battery cells, transformers and other electrical equipment were carried out last month and further testing and commissioning will take place for a full launch and connection to the power grid by the end of spring. The projects are being developed by state-owned energy sector holding company EPSO-G through a special purpose company Energy Cells.

The projects are set to begin operation in sequence rather than all at the same time, and will provide ‘Isolated Electric Power System Operating Reserve Service’, EPSO-G said. The company first announced the projects back in December 2021.

The four battery storage projects will total EUR109 million of investment (US$116 million) and are being majority-funded (c.80%) by the EU"s Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) NextGenerationEU plan called New Generation Lithuania. The bloc-wide framework has seen money go to energy storage projects in Finland and Greece too.

Fluence, the largest battery storage system integrator globally, won the contract to design, manufacture and connect the battery energy storage projects to the transmission system and provide maintenance services for 15 years thereafter, in partnership with its parent company Siemens.

Energy-Storage.news" publisher Solar Media will host the eighth annual Energy Storage Summit EU in London, 22-23 February 2023. This year it is moving to a larger venue, bringing together Europe"s leading investors, policymakers, developers, utilities, energy buyers and service providers all in one place. Visit the official site for more info.

“The development trends of electromobility show that 90 per cent of the cars we drive today will soon be in museums. From 2035, neither trucks nor cars with internal combustion engines will be sold in the European Union,” emphasised Lithuanian Minister of Energy Dainius Kreivys while opening the Electromobility Conference.

“Of course, with such ambitious goals, we have a lot of work ahead of us. One of the main tasks is the development of the infrastructure for electric cars. We need 60 thousand public and private charging stations by 2030,” said the minister.

The Ministry of Energy has already prepared financing measures and allocated 46 million euros to install 53 thousand private charging stations at home. The first phase provides support for three thousand charging stations.

“Lithuanians are increasingly opting for electric cars. As their number grows, it is important to expand the charging infrastructure network consistently and without delay. The experience of various countries shows that residents choose the most convenient and useful solution to charge the electric car at a private station at home or at the workplace. Therefore, state support for these investments is extremely relevant,” said Agn? Bago?iut?, Director of the Lithuanian Energy Agency.

Lithuania announced a new call for residents to submit applications for compensation for part of the costs associated with the installation of private charging points for electric cars. The number of applications confirms that state support is necessary, expected, and helps bring the era of electromobility closer in Lithuania, pointed out the Director of the Lithuanian Energy Agency.