

Mozambique manufacturing energy storage

Mozambique's energy regulator has launched a tender for solar-plus-storage hybrid projects across several provinces. The deadline for applications is Sept. 13.

Mozambique's Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy has kicked off a tender for the development of decentralized solar and battery storage systems in the country.

The Energy Regulatory Authority is seeking two qualified independent power producers to develop, finance, build, own, operate and transfer two lots of solar-plus-storage projects in the provinces of Nampula, Zambezia and Sofala, all located along the eastern coast of Mozambique, and the province of Gaza in the south.

The first stage of the tender is an invitation to pre-qualification. According to the tender details, interested applicants must register with the Energy Regulatory Authority and complete the pre-qualification documents before Sept. 13.

Mozambique had 83 MW of installed solar at the end of 2023, according to figures from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). The country's Power Infrastructure Master Plan sets a target of 50% of its energy generation to come from renewable energy sources by 2043.

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The project will be located within Ncondezi's 25,000-hectare concession area in the Tete Province, with three preferred sites of c.500MW generation potential each already identified, the company said. It hasn't clarified what size the battery storage portion will be.

But, it added, the project will also be able to leverage existing advanced stage development work from its 300MW thermal power project which will significantly cut development costs and accelerate project delivery. That means the co-located project could be completed and grid-connected as early as 2024, it said.

The feasibility study will take four months to complete and will be led by WSP Group Africa, which Ncondezi



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CEO Hanno Pengilly described as "one of the top technical consultants in solar PV";.

Ncondezi estimates that the investment totals a pre-money net present value (NPV) of between US\$60-65 million and fully diluted cash flows of between US\$130-180 million over a 25 year period.

It will connect to the Mozambique grid and offtake agreements will be sought with companies both in Mozambique and the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP), a cross-border electricity market comprising 13 countries in Southern Africa.

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