

Singapore energy storage systems

Singapore has surpassed its 2025 energy storage deployment target three years early, with the official opening of the biggest battery storage project in Southeast Asia.

The opening was hosted by the 200MW/285MWh battery energy storage system (BESS) project's developer Sembcorp, together with Singapore's Energy Market Authority (EMA).

EMA had awarded the technology company with the project contract last May through an Expression of Interest (EOI). Work began a month or two after that and was finished shortly before the end of 2022, meaning the entire project went from origination to commissioning in just six months.

The BESS is located on 2 hectares of land on Jurong Island, which is heavily industrialised and features much of Singapore's energy generation and infrastructure.

It is equipped with lithium iron phosphate (LFP) battery cells in 800 separate containerised units, and as reported by Energy-Storage.news as construction approached its final leg in October, will be used to help balance the supply and demand of electricity on the grid, and for various ancillary services.

The target was set as part of the EMA programme, Accelerating Energy Storage Access for Singapore (ACCESS), through which the EOI solicitation was held. It is just the second grid-scale BESS project in the country following a 2.4MWh project by Wartsila, supplied and switched on in 2020.

EMA is understood to be continuing work on the ACCESS scheme, seeking to find ways to best integrate energy storage into Singapore's energy networks, which will be required for it to achieve a targeted 2GW of solar PV capacity by 2030 and for emissions to peak by that time.

One industry source told Energy-Storage.news recently that proposing BESS projects for development in Singapore is challenging given the lack of space in urban areas of the densely populated territory, and commensurate regulations on fire safety and urban planning, among other things.

The state does not have a net zero target date, only that emissions will be in decline by 2050, and that it will aim for carbon neutrality when viable in the second half of this century. The power sector accounts for about 40% of all Singapore's carbon emissions, according to EMA.

Sembcorp is active in international markets including the UK and has an energy storage portfolio of 709MWh. The energy and urban development group gave some more details on the Jurong Island project above what has been previously disclosed.

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In a recent article for our quarterly journal, PV Tech Power, representatives of companies with a presence in the region spoke about how Southeast Asia is seeing an uptick in energy storage investment.

This follows some years of market-seeding activity and is driven by Southeast Asia's growing energy demand and economic growth, as well as the need to meet a target of 24% renewable energy shared by the ASEAN group member states.

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