

Brazil energy storage for backup power

Brazilian energy suppliers raised the red flag in September 2024, signaling a rise in electricity costs as thermal power stations were fired up to cover a fall in hydroelectric output because of water shortages.

With global battery prices having fallen 85% between 2010 and 2018 - and further since - Brazilian home, business, and industrial electricity users are considering energy storage systems increasingly attractive.

Holu's Costa observed batteries were prominent during the Intersolar South America trade show held in São Paulo at the end of August 2024. She added, hundreds of manufacturers are bringing energy storage products to Brazil.

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Grid operator ISA CTEEP has started commercially operating a large-scale battery energy storage system (BESS) at the Registro substation in the Brazilian state of São Paulo. The 30 MW/60 MWh BESS is expected to provide backup power to the grid during hours of peak demand in summer.

Brazil's transmission system operator, ISA CTEEP, has announced that the country's first large-scale battery has been connected to the grid at one of its electrical substations in São Paulo. The company said the battery spans approximately 5,000 square meters and relies on 180 lithium battery modules made by an undisclosed manufacturer in China.

The 30 MW/60 MWh storage system can deliver electricity for periods of two hours. It is expected to operate during the summer during times of peak electricity demand, as backup for the power grid.

The project secured approval from the Brazilian National Electric Energy Agency (Aneel) just over a year ago. At the time, the investment was estimated at BRL 146 million (\$27.7 million). Aneel selected the project through a research and development tender in 2016.

The batteries were installed in an area of approximately 5,000 m², which is the equivalent of half a soccer field. It has 30 MW of power, which will guarantee the demand of more than 2 million people and avoid the



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emission of 1.194 tons of CO₂ in two years of operation, as it replaces the use of diesel generators.

The batteries will be activated at times of peak consumption as a backup to the power grid, ensuring additional power for up to two hours. This will prevent the interruption of the energy supply due to excess demand during this period, thus guaranteeing greater security and reliability in the provision of the service.

ANEEL's baseline investment in this project was more than USD 27 million and the Annual Allowed Revenue (RAP) is approximately USD 5 million. Both values refer to June 2021, according to ANEEL Authorizing Resolution 10.892/2021.

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