

## Floating solar pv project

South Korea is developing the world's biggest floating solar power plant near Saemangeum, an estuarine tidal flat on the coast of the Yellow Sea. The 2.1GW floating solar farm is a part of the planned mega renewable energy project of up to 3GW in the Yellow Sea off the coast of South Korea. The project is anticipated to generate electricity enough to serve the needs of one million homes. The installed capacity of the project is expected to be 14 times the size of the 150MW Huainan solar farm, currently the biggest operational floating solar farm in the world.

The Korean Government allayed fears that the glare from the floating array would affect the flight and landing operations of a US military base located nearby in November 2019, clearing the hurdle for the project.

Ocean Sun, a company based in Norway, and EN Technologies, a company based in South Korea, reached a deal for the deployment of the former's systems at the Saemangeum floating solar project, in July 2020. Approximately 0.5GW of the total capacity will be developed by private companies.

SK E& S was named the preferred bidder to build a 200MW floating solar power plant near Saemangeum in September 2020. Construction of the same is expected to be started by the third quarter of 2021, with the aim of starting operations in 2023.

A 600MW floating solar energy project is planned to be constructed at the Omkareshwar dam in Madhya Pradesh, India. Spanning 2,000ha, the proposed solar farm will be built on the Narmada River in the Khandwa district with an estimated investment of Rs30bn (\$409.86m).

The feasibility study for the solar project was completed in partnership with the World Bank. Power Grid Corporation of India, International Finance Corporation and World Bank reached an in-principle agreement to fund the project.

Supported by a 400MW power purchase agreement (PPA) with Madhya Pradesh Power Management Company, the solar energy project is expected to come online by 2023. Ongoing works include a transmission line route survey from the project location to the substation in Khandwa.

A tender will soon be issued for the environmental and social impact study of the project. Madhya Pradesh is also reportedly planning to build a 1GW floating solar power project on the Indira Sagar dam in Khandwa.

Hangzhou Fengling Electricity Science Technology developed a 320MW floating PV power plant in China's Zhejiang province in two phases. The first phase with a capacity of 200MW was completed in 2017 while the second phase of 120MW was completed in April 2020.



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Built on the Changhe and Zhouxiang reservoirs in Cixi, the power plant produces approximately 352 million kilowatt-hours of green energy. The floating solar farm is installed with the PV central inverters supplied by KSTAR.

Located in Huainan City in China's eastern province of Anhui, Three Gorges New Energy's 150MW floating solar farm was built on a lake that came into existence after a former coal mine collapsed. The solar farm started feeding power into the national grid in December 2017. It overtook the 40MW floating array in Anhui as the biggest floating solar power plant.

The 145MW Cirata floating PV project is proposed to be developed on a 225ha area on the Cirata Reservoir in Indonesia's West Java Region. It aims to be the biggest floating PV project in South East Asia when completed.

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