

## Serbia solar energy storage

Serbia is preparing a spatial plan for six solar power plants with battery storage within a strategic partnership, for which it selected Hyundai Engineering and UGT Renewables

The Government of Serbia instructed the country's Agency for Spatial and Urban Planning to produce a special purpose spatial plan under the project for the construction of six high-capacity solar power plants with a battery system for storing electricity. State-owned power utility EPS is securing the funds for the documentation.

Last year, the consortium Hyundai Engineering - UGT Renewables (UGTR) was selected as a strategic partner for a group of photovoltaic facilities of 1.2 GW in combined nameplate capacity and 1 GW in connection terms, including batteries of at least 200 MW in total operating power and the capacity of 400 MWh. The Ministry of Mining and Energy said in April that the commercial contract was about to be drafted.

In Zaječar, in the country's east, the locations are in the vicinity of the villages of Metrič and Salaš (Salaš Varoš and Salaš selo). Just northeast from the city, in the municipality of Negotin, near the borders with Romania and Bulgaria, the plan would be produced for plots in Sikole I, Brestovac, Jasenica, Karbulovo and Trnjane.

The Leskovac part, in the south, would comprise sites in cadastral municipalities Svirce, Vlase, Gornje Trnjane, Kukulovce, Žitince, Gornja Jajina, Veliko Trnjane, Rudare, Mrštane and Badince. In the same area, a photovoltaic facility would be built in the municipality of Lebane, in Bošnjaci, Čenovac, Pertate, Togoševce and Cekavica.

In nearby Bujanovac, the special purpose spatial plan should be developed for locations in Srpska Kuća, Karadnik i Rakovac. The remaining locations are in Bački Gračac, Odžaci, Lalić and Ratkovo in the municipality of Odžaci in Serbia's northwest.

The photovoltaic systems will include solar trackers, the government added. A special purpose plan is a condition for issuing the location conditions, the decision reads. The deadline for the production of the document, including a study on the protection of immovable cultural property, is eight months.

Under the conditions of the strategic partnership, the consortium was tasked with identifying the locations and produce spatial planning documentation and necessary studies. The strategic partner needs to build the solar power plants with storage by June 1, 2028, and hand them over to EPS.

Hyundai Engineering is one of the companies making up the South Korean Hyundai Motor Group. In Southeastern Europe, it is also active in Montenegro in partnership with UGTR, based in Miami, Florida.

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Web: <https://www.sumthingtasty.co.za/contact-us/>

Email: [energystorage2000@gmail.com](mailto:energystorage2000@gmail.com)

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

