

Types of energy storage abu dhabi

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Battery capacity will supply operating reserves and additional system services, boosting system flexibility and enhancing network stability

Upon completion, the project will enable the accelerated deployment and utilisation of renewable energy across the UAE

EWEC (Emirates Water and Electricity Company), a leading company in the integrated planning, purchasing and supply of water and electricity across the UAE, has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to qualified developers and developer consortiums that expressed interest in developing an independent greenfield 400-megawatt (MW) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) power project in Abu Dhabi, providing up to 800 megawatt-hours (MWh) of storage capacity.

EWEC is deploying BESS to enhance the flexibility and stability of Abu Dhabi's energy network, allowing for the effective management of peak demand and integration of increasing amounts of renewable energy. Through this strategic implementation, EWEC is accelerating the energy transition to renewable and clean sources at scale and speed, thus enabling the further integration of renewable and clean energy capacities in the region. Commissioning the development of both utility-scale renewable and low-carbon reverse osmosis projects is crucial to achieving the energy targets set by the Abu Dhabi Department of Energy for 2035 and contributing to the broader UAE Energy Strategy 2050 and UAE Net Zero by 2050 goals.

BESS technology will also provide crucial ancillary services such as frequency response and voltage regulation, further reinforcing the security of supply and supporting EWEC to increase its solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity to 7.5 gigawatts (GW) by 2030. This accelerated growth in renewables will significantly reduce the carbon dioxide intensity of EWEC's power supply, from 330 kilograms per megawatt hour (kg/MWh) in 2019 to an estimated 190 kg/MWh by 2030.

The RFP is being issued to bidders who passed the qualification process following the Expression of Interest (EOI) stage that took place in April 2024. A total of 93 companies and consortiums submitted EOIs, while 27 companies and consortiums qualified for the RFP stage after submitting Statements of Qualification.

The project will closely follow the model of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi's successful Independent Power Producer (IPP) programme, where developers enter into a long-term agreement with EWEC as the sole procurer. It will involve the development, financing, construction, operation, maintenance, and ownership of the BESS system and associated infrastructure.



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Responses to the RFP will be received by Q4 2024.

About Emirates Water and Electricity Company

EWEC (Emirates Water and Electricity Company) is the sole procurer and supplier of water and electricity in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. EWEC drives the planning, forecasting, purchasing, and despatch of water and electricity. EWEC fulfils these vital responsibilities through the short-term and long-term balancing of bulk supply and demand for distribution companies and authorities in Abu Dhabi and other Emirates. EWEC is supporting the government of Abu Dhabi and the government of the UAE by enabling the reduction of cost whilst also providing the increased security of supply that comes from a cleaner, larger, and more integrated system.

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