

Will Tesla Solar power Ta'u in American Samoa?

Tesla has announced their solar panels are nearly entirely powering the island of Ta'u in American Samoa. The island used to depend entirely on imported diesel fuel for its electricity, but a new initiative has seen the islanders build a 1.4-megawatt microgrid that absorbs and stores solar power for all their energy needs.

Does American Samoa have a solar microgrid?

The island of Ta'u in American Samoa now boasts a solar microgrid from Tesla's SolarCity. Join us in The People v. Climate Change and share an environmental portrait of someone taking positive steps to protect the Earth on YourShot or social media. Use #MyClimateAction to share a first-person perspective on how we as humans face climate change.

Does Maui have a solar-energy microgrid?

Now, the island runs on a completely renewable microgrid that meets 100% of residents' energy needs through solar power and battery storage. In 2016, the founders of Maui, Hawaii-based company Mana Pacific helped design and implement Ta'u's solar-energy microgrid composed of over 5,300 solar panels.

What is a church choir in American Samoa?

Ta'u, American Samoa -- On a recent Wednesday evening on the island of Ta'u--one of the outer islands in American Samoa--most of the people in all three villages are at pesa--or church choir--practice. The annual island-wide youth group showcases are coming up and each choir senses the pressure of having to perfect their routines.

The stability and affordability of power from the new Ta'u microgrid, operated by American Samoa Power Authority, provides energy independence for the nearly 600 residents of Ta'u. The battery system also allows the island to use stored solar energy at night, meaning renewable energy is available for use around the clock.

In November, Tau Island celebrated the completion of a solar-powered microgrid, funded by the U.S. Department of Interior and the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA), and installed by SolarCity--a subsidiary of Tesla.

The Tesla Powerpack battery system can provide three full days of power to the island without the sun. And this power pack can be fully recharged in just seven hours of sunlight. This project has given a new lifeline to the residents of Ta'u island and eliminated their dependency on diesel generators.

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Ta'u, a small island in American Samoa, now gathers enough solar energy for 24/7 power, thanks to a microgrid project completed in November with solar provider SolarCity and Tesla. The system, operated by American Samoa Power Authority, comprises 5,000 SolarCity solar panels and 60 Tesla Powerpack battery-storage systems.

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The island of Ta'u in American Samoa once relied on diesel fuel to supply electricity. Residents experienced consistent power rationing and outages, and key services like hospitals and schools hinged on infrequent fuel imports.[1]

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