

Which energy company is building New Zealand's first grid-connected battery energy storage system?

Meridian Energy is building New Zealand's first large-scale grid-connected battery energy storage system (BESS) at Ruakaka on North Island. Paris, January 10, 2023 - Saft, a subsidiary of TotalEnergies, has been awarded a major contract by Meridian Energy to construct New Zealand's first large-scale grid-connected BESS.

Who is launching New Zealand's largest battery energy storage system?

WEL Networks and Infratec are proud to announce the launch of New Zealand's largest Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with commissioning underway.

How much does a battery cost in New Zealand?

The mean charging spot price was \$123/MWh and the median was \$132/MWh. As New Zealand electrifies, more grid-scale batteries will support the growing renewable energy supply. Meridian Energy is building a 100MW (200MWh) battery near Ruakaka in sunny Northland. This battery is expected to be commissioned in September 2024.

Does Saft offer a battery energy storage system for New Zealand?

Saft Executive Vice President for Energy Storage Solutions, Hervé Amossé, says, "Saft is proud to provide this first Battery Energy Storage System for New Zealand in the Waikato. We are excited to start this operation phase of the battery for which we will continue to support our partners."

Who built the first battery in New Zealand?

Infratec GM, Nick Bibby says, "Our team have worked closely with our parent company WEL Networks, our major suppliers and local electrical and civil contractors on this innovative build. The result is a battery that is the first of its scale to be built in New Zealand." Construction on the 35MWh BESS in Rotowaro, Huntly commenced in July 2022.

What are grid-scale batteries & how can they benefit New Zealand?

Grid-scale batteries maximise the benefits of renewable energy and provide extra resilience during times of tight electricity supply. Additionally, these batteries, alongside more renewable generation, will help off-set the retirement of thermal generation and support New Zealand's transition to a low-emissions economy.

As New Zealand electrifies, more grid-scale batteries will support the growing renewable energy supply. Meridian Energy is building a 100MW (200MWh) battery near Ruakaka in sunny Northland. This battery is expected to be commissioned in September 2024. Meridian is planning a 130MW solar array on the same site.

New Zealand Battery Project Indicative Business Case and Appendices - February 2023 [PDF 9.9MB] NZ Battery Project: Proposal to Advance Two Options to a Detailed Business Case [PDF 261KB]

Saft is providing a complete turnkey BESS based on 70 of its Intensium®; Shift+ lithium-ion battery containers; Genesis Energy Limited is developing a 100 MW/200 MWh BESS at Huntly Power Station on New Zealand's North Island; Project is Saft's third utility-scale BESS for New Zealand

Meridian Energy is building New Zealand's first large-scale grid-connected battery energy storage system (BESS) at Ruakaka on North Island; Saft lithium-ion technology will provide 100 MW power and 200 MWh storage capacity to support grid stability as intermittent wind and solar power increases in New Zealand

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In enabling New Zealand's energy future, in our role as system operator, Transpower will continue to explore the benefits and challenges in aiding this transformation, through our proactive studies of impacts on power system dynamics.

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