

## **SolarTech Power Solutions**

# **New Zealand Valley Power Energy Storage Product Introduction**



## Overview

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What is the NZ battery project?

The NZ Battery Project was set up in 2020 to explore possible renewable energy storage solutions for when our hydro lakes run low for long periods. A pumped hydro scheme at Lake Onslow was one of the options being explored. The Government stopped the Lake Onslow investigations in late 2023.

Can battery technology save energy in New Zealand?

transferring and using energy. In New Zealand, our hydro lakes store energy on a large scale. However, until now we have had limited options to store electricity cost-effectively close to where it is used. Around the world, battery technology now offers opportunities to store electricity economically.

Why is electricity important in New Zealand?

For Kiwi homes and businesses. Electricity is a convenient means of transferring and using energy. In New Zealand, our hydro lakes store energy on a large scale. However, until now we have had limited options to store electricity cost-effectively.

How much energy is stored in Lake Taupo in New Zealand?

A total of 4 GWh of distributed storage across New Zealand. However, this is roughly equivalent to only 0.7 per cent of the nominal controlled hydro energy stored in Lake Taupo, a 4 per cent of the daily electricity use in New Zealand. We looked at the impact that BESSs can have.

What is the role of the electricity distribution sector in New Zealand?

3.32. New Zealand's electricity distribution sector has a key role to play as the economy electrifies. This includes helping to unlock the benefits of innovation and technological change, and realise the potential of distributed energy resources. 3.33. Distributed energy resources are technologies used to generate, store, or manage energy.

What is the power system in New Zealand?

The New Zealand power system is relatively small. It encompasses two islands, connected by an HVDC link. Today, the North Island power system serves an island maximum load of 1,500 MW, and the South Island a maximum load of 2,200 MW. Most of the time, excess electricity from South Island hydro generation is exported.

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