

## SolarTech Power Solutions

# Use of special energy storage batteries in New Zealand



## Overview

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Meridian Energy has officially opened New Zealand's first large-scale grid battery storage system at Ruakākā, the first of its kind, and a milestone in the country's renewable energy infrastructure development. The Ruakākā Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) delivers 100 megawatts (MW) of maximum.

This article explains the importance of grid-scale batteries as New Zealand shifts towards a highly renewable electricity system. What is grid battery storage and why is it important?

New Zealand is building more renewable electricity generation. However, renewable generation (like wind and solar).

Meridian Energy, a New Zealand state-owned energy company, has completed the development of its 100MW/200MWh 2-hour duration Ruakākā battery energy storage system (BESS), which it claims is the country's first utility-scale BESS. Construction of the BESS, located south of Whangārei, the.

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. It can also store local sources of generation, such as rooftop solar, and smooth out the.

While hydro still rules, New Zealand is starting to take battery storage seriously, especially on the North Island. New Zealand's electricity system remains heavily dependent on hydro generation, especially in the South

Island, where facilities like Manapouri and Clyde dams dominate. Recent dry.

Meridian Energy is building New Zealand's first large-scale grid-connected battery energy storage system (BESS) at Ruakākā 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. Where is New Zealand's first large-scale battery storage system located?

Meridian Energy has officially opened New Zealand's first large-scale grid battery storage system at Ruakākā, the first of its kind, and a milestone in the country's renewable energy infrastructure development. The Ruakākā Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) delivers 100 megawatts (MW) of maximum output with 200 MW-hour storage capacity.

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

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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.

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 Ruakākā in sunny Northland. This battery is expected to be commissioned in September 2024.

Will a Meridian battery help New Zealand's electricity system?

Guy Waipara, Meridian's general manager of development, said the battery adds crucial North Island storage capability to New Zealand's electricity

system with multiple operational benefits.

How many community-scale batteries are there in New Zealand?

At the moment there has only been one community-scale battery deployed in New Zealand, with another coming online as part of the Franklin energy sharing pilot – a joint project initiated by Ara Ake, Climate Connect Aotearoa and Counties Energy.

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