

Jerusalem microgrid energy storage

Powin Energy has installed battery energy storage systems (BESS) in Israel and Taiwan which, while small by comparison to some of the company's recent US projects, mark entry into new territories for the Oregon-headquartered system integrator.

Powin partnered with local industrial equipment company TPE Energy to install a 2MW / 3MWh, BESS which marks the first procurement of battery storage by state-owned Taiwan Power Company (Taipower).

"This project will perform Automated Frequency Control (AFC) services for Taipower, which is the main application for all energy storage projects currently under operation and tender in the Taiwan market," Powin Energy executive VP Danny Lu told Energy-Storage.news.

It is the first project awarded to TPE Energy, which Lu said has been created as a local sales, installation and operations and maintenance (O& M) entity by Powin's contract manufacturer iBase Gaming, to sell the US company's products into the Taiwan market. Powin has two manufacturing facilities on the island, where in December it said it is ramping up annual production capacity from 700MWh to 2.5GWh.

The 3MWh system is a commercially operating project, not a demonstration, and has contracted availability and performance contracts in place that will create net revenues over a 5-year period, according to Danny Lu.

"Taipower ultimately plans to own and operate a portion of their ESS projects, but these first initial projects were developed and owned by developers and IPPs contracted to provide services to Taipower," he said.

Powin Energy noted in a press release sent to Energy-Storage.news that rolling blackouts, which affected more than six million households in May, highlighted the vulnerabilities of the Taiwanese grid network, raising awareness of the role energy storage could play in adding security and reliability to the system. The company said the installation and requisite testing proceeded quickly and smoothly and the project has obtained the license it needs to participate in AFC for Taipower.

Meanwhile, a 1MW / 3.2MWh Powin Energy BESS has been installed at Israel's first utility-scale microgrid energy storage project, at a kibbutz.

The project was done in partnership with BL Energy, a subsidiary of Blilious Group, an Israeli company active in areas including automotive product imports, public transport, real estate and energy storage and EV charging. The customer was Israeli renewable energy company Nofar Energy.

The BESS will help integrate the output of new and existing rooftop solar projects into the local network,



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mitigating the impact of grid capacity constraints. It will also supply backup power and reduce the kibbutz's grid demand.

Danny Lu said the main technical challenges of deploying energy storage in Israel's hot desert climate were in verifying the Powin Energy BESS system's thermal management equipment to ensure its suitability for use in the region.

"Luckily many of our projects are installed in the US desert regions of California and Texas, with similar climate profiles," Lu said.

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Web: <https://kary.com.pl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

