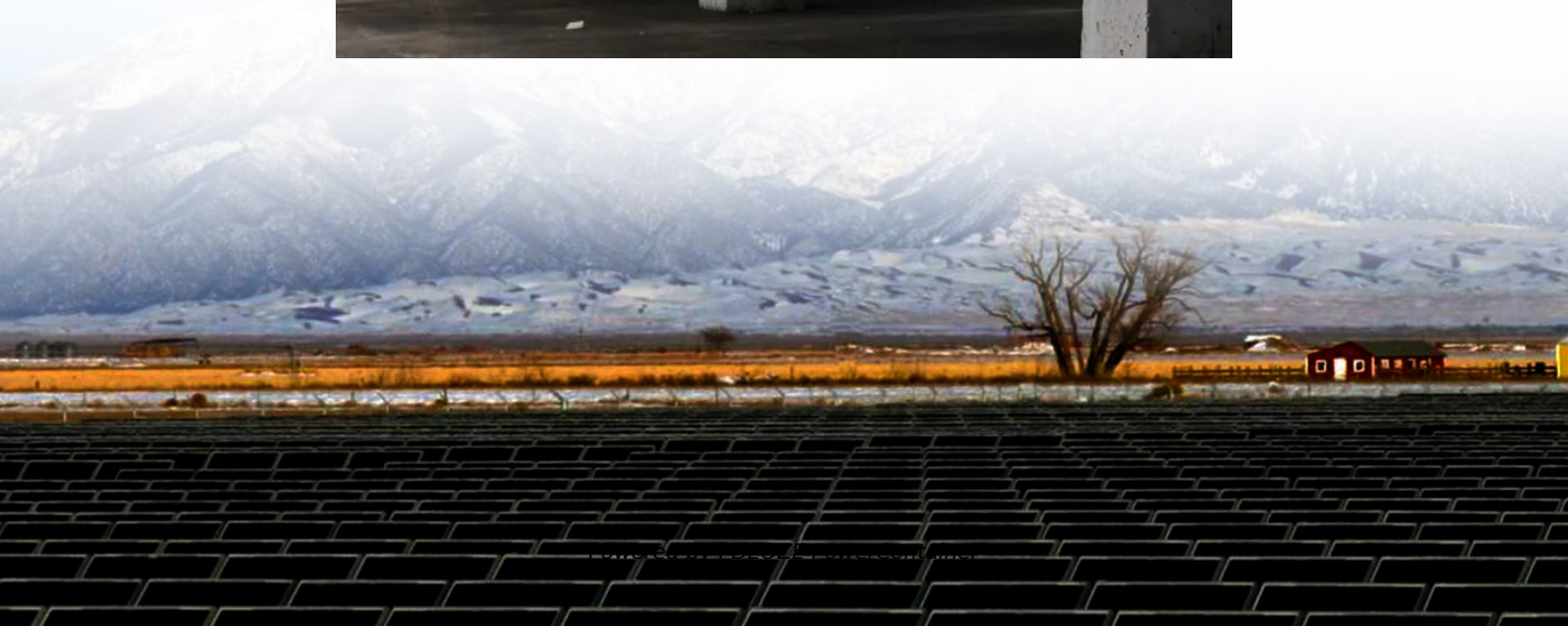


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Africa Independent Energy Storage Power Station Project



Overview

CAPE TOWN, 27 June 2025: Globeleq, a leading independent power company in Africa, together with its project partner, African Rainbow Energy, announced that they have reached commercial close on the 153 MW/612 MWh Red Sands battery energy storage project (Red Sands BESS) in South Africa, by signing the project agreements with the Department of Electricity and Energy and the National Transmission Company South Africa (NTCSA). Where will the battery energy storage project be implemented?

The Project will be implemented at approximately 17 sites, located within or adjacent to existing distribution substations of Eskom, across four provinces of South Africa. The Battery Energy Storage Project (Project) provides a solution to address both challenges.

What are the most popular solar-plus-storage developments in Africa?

As noted by AFSIA Solar, one of the most notable solar-plus-storage developments in Africa is Norway-based independent power producer (IPP) Scatec's 225MW/1,140MWh Kenhardt project in South Africa. The site started operation in late 2023 (pictured above).

Does Scatec have a solar-plus-storage site in South Africa?

Scatec's Kenhardt solar-plus-storage site in South Africa (above), which went online at the end of 2023. Image: Scatec. Africa's energy storage market has seen a boom since 2017, having risen from just 31MWh to 1,600MWh in 2024, according to trade body AFSIA Solar's latest report.

What is the Drakensberg pumped storage scheme?

Designed to generate electricity for 10 hours per day through its four 250 MW turbine generators, the Drakensberg Pumped Storage Scheme is an energy storage facility, situated in the northern parts of the Drakensberg Mountain range of South Africa, which provides up to 27.6 GWh of electricity storage.

How will Bess projects impact South Africa's Energy Security?

As South Africa continues to grapple with frequent blackouts and load shedding, these BESS projects will help mitigate risks and contribute to the country's energy security. The Gainfar Project will be connected to the Ngwedi substation, while the Boitekong Project will be connected to the Marang substation.

Who owns 153 MW & 612 MWh in South Africa?

Developed by Globeleq, which is 30% owned by Norfund, in partnership with African Rainbow Energy, the 153 MW/612 MWh project was signed off in June 2025 in Cape Town. It will be located in South Africa's Northern Cape Province and occupies a five-hectare site.

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hectare site.

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The Battery Energy Storage Project (Project) provides a solution to address both challenges. The Project can store excess renewable energy in low demand periods and release the energy during peak hours, meeting the ...

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