

ContainerPower Energy Solutions

Panama Energy Storage Station Planning and Layout



Overview

How much energy does Panama need?

Panama expects total energy demand to more than double between 2017 and 2030 (+113%), with peak demand growing from 1.6 GW to 3.5 GW. Panama is currently connected to Costa Rica via a 300 MW transmission line. A 400 MW high-voltage direct current (HVDC) interconnector with Colombia is expected to be commissioned by 2022.

Does Panama need a cross-border electricity market?

In the absence of a cross-border electricity market, this interconnection was modelled assuming that Panama imports energy from Colombia at the high price of USD 200 per megawatt-hour (MWh). Because imports are likely the most expensive source of electricity, they will be required only if Panama's internal generation mix is unable to meet demand.

Will Panama's power system handle a higher penetration of VRE?

Table 3 presents the values of these indicators for the 2030 renewables scenario with an optimised generation capacity mix. Panama's power system would still have enough flexibility to handle even higher penetration of VRE, as seen in the 2030 renewables scenario with investments.

What is the flextool engagement process for Panama?

The FlexTool engagement process for Panama started in October 2017, with a set of discussions during training on power grid studies with large shares of solar and wind.

Does Panama have a flextool?

Panama has taken part in power sector activities under the Clean Energy Corridor Central America (CECCA), for which it is a pilot country. Country experts expect to use the FlexTool in scenarios and studies by ETESA, CND and SNE.

Should energy storage systems be a candidate for investment?

The investment mode was run considering energy storage systems as a candidate for investment. Figure 7 shows that by investing in 1.5 GW (0.7 gigawatt-hours) of energy storage, curtailment decreases to less than 2%, while the VRE share increases from 64% to 66% and the renewable energy share increases from 76% to 78%.

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