

SolarTech Power Solutions

Jamaica s grid-side energy storage policy



Overview

Should Jamaica have a government-owned electricity grid?

The call for a government-owned electricity grid in Jamaica is a logical extension of the push for renewable energy. Public ownership would allow the government to make long-term investments in the energy sector that align with national interests rather than the profit-driven motives of a private monopoly like the Jamaica Public Service (JPS).

Why is energy storage important in Jamaica?

Jamaica is committed to reducing its dependence on imported fossil fuels. The country's National Energy Policy sets an ambitious target: 50% of electricity from renewable sources by 2037. Energy storage plays a critical role in achieving this target. Key policy support includes:

Are microgrids the future of energy in Jamaica?

Microgrids reduce diesel fuel dependency, extend energy access, and promote community-level energy independence. These modular systems can scale with demand and offer a sustainable alternative to costly grid expansion. Battery energy storage systems are no longer optional—they are essential to Jamaica's clean energy future.

How can battery energy storage help Jamaica?

Battery energy storage systems (BESS) are now emerging as a cornerstone technology to address these challenges—helping Jamaica stabilize its grid, unlock more renewable energy, and reduce electricity costs for both consumers and businesses. The country's electricity cost can reach as high as \$0.32 per kilowatt-hour, far above global averages.

Should Jamaica have a mini-grid system?

A mini-grid system would allow for the efficient utilisation of these resources while providing much-needed redundancy and resilience in the face of natural

disasters. The call for a government-owned electricity grid in Jamaica is a logical extension of the push for renewable energy.

How can Jamaica transition to a more reliable energy system?

By following the examples of Uruguay and Costa Rica, Jamaica can rapidly transition to a cleaner, more reliable energy system. Public ownership of the grid, combined with private investment in renewable energy generation, offers the best path forward.

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