

## SolarTech Power Solutions

# New Zealand Energy Storage Lithium Battery Pack Factory



## Overview

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Who is launching New Zealand's largest battery energy storage system?

WEL Networks and Infratec are proud to announce the launch of New Zealand's largest Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with commissioning underway.

What is the NZ battery project?

The NZ Battery Project was set up in 2020 to explore possible renewable energy storage solutions for when our hydro lakes run low for long periods. A pumped hydro scheme at Lake Onslow was one of the options being explored. The Government stopped the Lake Onslow investigations in late 2023.

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

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 grid-connected BESS.

What is a New Zealand battery?

Energy type: Battery storing electricity generated by New Zealand's hydro, geothermal and wind power stations when there is low demand. Construction: Begun July 2024 with the battery expected to be operational by March 2026.

How does a lithium ion battery work in New Zealand?

How it works The lithium-ion batteries (similar technology to those used in EVs and laptops) will store electricity generated by New Zealand's hydro, geothermal and wind power stations when there is low demand. Without this storage this electricity would otherwise go to waste.

When will New Zealand's energy storage project come online?

The energy storage project is expected to come online during the July-to-September period of 2026. Saft described the Huntly Power Station as “the single largest electricity generation site in New Zealand.” New Zealand welcomed its first utility-scale battery energy storage system earlier this year.

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