

Flow batteries cote d ivoire

Paris, May 11th 2022 - Saft, a subsidiary of TotalEnergies, has won a major contract from Eiffage Energie Systèmes to deliver a 10 MW energy storage system (ESS) that will ensure smooth grid integration for the Boundiali solar photovoltaic (PV) power plant. The 37.5 MWp (megawatt-peak) plant, owned and operated by CI-Energies (Côte d'Ivoire Energies), will be the first large-scale solar project in Côte d'Ivoire.

The primary role of the ESS will be capacity firming and smoothing of the solar plant's inherently intermittent output to ensure a predictable and reliable feed into the local grid. The fully-integrated lithium-ion ESS will comprise six Saft Intensium Max High Energy containers, providing a total of 13.8 MWh (megawatt-hour) energy storage, together with power conversion and medium voltage power station systems.

"As the main contractor for the Boundiali project, it was vital to find an ESS partner that could not only meet the technical requirements, but would also ensure that the system would operate reliably throughout a 10-year life," said Ludovic Bavière of Eiffage Energie Systems. "The quality of our discussions and a previous experience reassured us of Saft's ability to carry out this strategic project for our client, CI-Energies".

Côte d'Ivoire had an installed electricity production capacity of 2229 MW in 2019 and is expected to double its production by 2030. Electricity supply is currently largely provided by thermal energy and hydroelectric dams. The government aims to make the country the energy hub of West Africa by 2030 with an energy mix of 42 percent renewables.

Boundiali, a city of around 40,000 in the north of Côte d'Ivoire, will soon be home to the country's first solar power plant. It will produce clean electricity for around 30,000 households, avoid the emission of 27,000 tonnes of CO₂, and will help create 300 jobs in the region.

The area is classified as a semi-arid zone with a hot and very dry climate. In addition to ensuring reliability and long-life in ambient temperatures that can reach 37°C, the battery containers are designed to resist hot and dusty winds.

Saft is a wholly owned subsidiary of TotalEnergies, a broad energy company that produces and markets energies on a global scale: oil and biofuels, natural gas and green gases, renewables and electricity.

The announcement made today comes shortly after CellCube CEO Alexander Schoenfeldt told Energy-Storage.news in an interview last week that the vanadium flow battery supply chain needs to scale up dramatically to reach the 'gigafactory' levels of production he wants to see.

Cellcube, officially called Enerox but better known by its brand name, has signed the five-year framework agreement with renewable energy developer Kibo Energy to deploy at least 1GW of storage in targeted

Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. The SADC comprises all 16 countries from South Africa up to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.

The two companies have agreed to develop and deploy long-duration energy storage (LDES) solutions in the region using Cellcube's technology. Kibo, which has historically owned coal projects but is transitioning to green energy, will be project developer and an integrator of the CellCube solutions, subject to audit and certification by CellCube.

The Ireland-based, stock-listed developer has been granted conditional exclusive rights to the marketing, sales, configuration and delivery of CellCube's VRFBs when deploying solutions for behind-the-meter microgrid applications, subject to successful proof of concept projects which will be ordered by June 30. The exclusivity does not extend to utility-scale projects.

In an interview at last week's Intersolar Europe / Electrical Energy Storage Europe trade event in Germany, prior to this announcement, Cellcube CEO Schoenfeldt explained to Energy-Storage.news the reasoning behind this strategic focus on microgrids.

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