

Slovenia retail store energy storage

State-owned utility and power generator HSE is targeting 800MW of flexibility assets across Slovenia by 2035, including pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) and battery energy storage systems (BESS).

The 800MW will be made up of 590MW of pumped hydro energy storage (PHES), 150MW of battery energy storage systems (BESS), 50MW of electrolysis and 10MW of active consumption (AO). The latter wasn't defined but most likely refers to 'prosumers', i.e. consumers of electricity that also have their own generation and can therefore consume more flexibly.

The figures may include two BESS units totalling 60MW which HSE subsidiary Dravske elektrarne Maribor (DEM) is planning to co-locate with a PHES unit, reported on previously by Energy-Storage.news.

HSE is also considering adding a BESS unit to its Prapretno 3 PV project, but said that funds from the EU's Just Transition Fund (JTF) would need to be obtained to do so. The JTF provides funds to territories expected to be the most negatively impacted by the transition to climate neutrality. Other countries to have used the funding for energy storage include Cyprus.

Slovenia is also utilising the EU's State Aid Temporary Crisis and Transition Framework to provide EUR150 (US\$160 million) in state aid for renewables and energy storage projects, with funding set to be allocated no later than the end of next year.

The BESS market in Slovenia is currently dominated by independent power producer (IPP) NGEN, which has the three projects totalling 90MWh and is set to build another, 140MWh, system. The company will be speaking at Solar Media's Energy Storage Summit Central Eastern Europe (CEE) 2024 in Poland later this month.

NGEN, a developer based in Slovenia, has celebrated the installation of a 22MWh grid-scale battery energy storage system (ESS) supplied by Tesla in what is thought to be the product's first deployment in the Balkans.

The company tweeted that an official opening event had taken place on 10 October for the battery, which is claimed to also currently be the largest Tesla Powerpack battery system in Europe, although not the largest ESS project on the continent by any provider.

Energy-storage.news emailed NGEN to request confirmation and for more information this morning, receiving confirmation that information provided has been accurate, while the site also got a promise from NGEN to speak in more depth with the company in the near future from the company's leadership team.

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In the meantime, regional news outlet Balkan Green Energy News offered a brief report on the project, which is in Jesenice, north-west Slovenia. The site reported that the battery energy storage system (BESS) will be used to balance grid frequency in the area and could help integrate much larger shares of renewable energy onto the grid, also reporting that NGEN said its next system will be constructed in Slovenia within eight months.

The Balkan Green Energy article also said NGEN is seeking to also assist others in executing their own ESS projects, which could see NGEN installing and operating plants as well as providing software and offering technical assistance.

The Jelenice project may also end up being one of the final really large Tesla projects to use the Powerpack at grid-scale, with the company having recently launched Megapack, which is a modular system solution available in 3MWh 'blocks' and intended for utility use.

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Web: <https://www.hollanddutchtours.nl/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

