GVERN TA' MALTA

INTERCONNECT MALTA

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BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS)

Interconnect Malta Ltd. (ICM) has been entrusted the responsibility to implement two Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to be connected to the Maltese National electric grid network.

BESS is essentially a group of large batteries configured to store and dispatch electrical energy with very fast response when required.

The first system (BESS 1}, rated at 20MWh (BMW}, will be located in the underground tunnels of the former Marsa power station while the second system (BESS 2) shall have a rating 64MWh (32MW) and shall be located within the precincts of the Delimara power station.

This project is in alignment with Malta's energy and climate strategies, as it emphasises the integration of energy emanating from renewable sources and the mitigation of energy curtailment, thus enhancing energy security and reducing carbon emissions.

BESS shall contribute towards enabling Malta to achieve its EU decarbonisation commitments, as it counters the intermittency characterising Variable Renewable Energy Sources (VRES) such as solar PV and stabilises the grid among the potential provision of other services.

The total eligible cost allocated under the ERDF grant for both the Delimara and Marsa projects is of €35 million. Both projects have been accepted for co-financing under the ERDF programme 2021-2027 following the mid-term review of the programme.

The BESS project is also intended to mitigate weather-related challenges posed by renewable energy sources, which are reliant on climatic conditions and can therefore lead to significant dips in generation during moments of sudden cloud coverage severely affecting the PV generation in Malta.

Having battery-stored renewable energy will also allow the country to reduce its reliance on fossil fuel-generated power at peak times.

ICM has obtained the development permits for both the Marsa and Delimara projects from the Planning Authority.

Co-funded by the European Union

SISTEMI TA' ĦAŻNA TAL-ENERĠIJA BIL-BATTERIJI (BESS)

Interconnect Malta Ltd. (ICM) ġiet fdata bir-responsabbiltà biex timplimenta żewġ Sistemi ta' Ħażna tal-Enerġija bil-Batteriji (Battery Energy Storage Systems - BESS) li se jkunu konnessi man-netwerk nazzjonali tal-elettriku ta' Malta.

Dawn is-sistemi essenzjalment ikunu jikkonsistu fi grupp ta' batteriji kbar magħquda ma' xulxin biex jaħżnu u jqassmu l-enerġija elettrika fi żmien qasir meta jinqala' il-bżonn.

L-ewwel sistema (BESS 1), b'kapaċità ta' 20MWh (BMW), ser titpoġġa f'mini taħt l-art tal-ex power station tal-Marsa filwaqt li t-tieni sistema (BESS 2) li se jkollha kapaċità ta' 64MWh (32MW) se tkun tinsab fil-konfini tal-power station ta' Delimara.

Dan il-proġett jorbot mal-istrateġiji tal-enerġija u l-klima ta' Malta, billi jgħin fl-integrazzjoni ta' enerġija li tkun ġejja minn sorsi rinnovabbli u ser jgħin biex jillimita it-trażżin mhux mixtieq tagħha meta ma tkunx tista' tiġi ikkunsmata fil-pront. B'hekk isaħħaħ is-sigurtà tal-enerġija u jnaqqas l-emissjonijiet tal-karbonju.

Dawn is-sistemi ser jikkontribwixxu biex Malta tikseb l-impenji tagħha ta' dekarbonizzazzjoni tal-UE, billi inaqqsu l-intermittenza marbuta ma Sorsi ta' Enerġija Rinnovabbli bħal solar PV, u b'hekk jistabbilizzaw aktar il-grid tal-elettriku.

L-ispejjeż totali eliġibbli allokati mill-għotja tal-UE għall-progetti ta' Marsa u Delimara jammontaw għal €35 miljun. Iż-żewġ proġetti ġew aċċettati għall-kofinanzjament taħt il-programm ERDF 2021-2027 wara l-midterm review tal-programm.

Il-proġett BESS huwa wkoll maħsub biex jimmitiga l-isfidi relatati mat-temp li jaffettwa is-sorsi ta' enerġija rinnovabbli billi dawn jiddependu fuq il-kundizzjonijiet klimatiċi u li jista' jwassal għal tnaqqis sinifikanti fil-ġenerazzjoni waqt mumenti meta meded kbar ta' sħab f'daqqa jaffettwa serjament il-ġenerazzjoni tal-elettriku solari f'Malta.

Il-ħażna ta' enerġija rinnovabbli fil-batteriji se jippermetti wkoll lill-pajjiż inaqqas id-dipendenza tiegħu fuq l-enerġija ġġenerata mill-fjuwils li jipproduċu il-karbonju f'ħinijiet ta' domanda għolja.

ICM kisbet il-permessi ta' żvilupp għaż-żewġ proġetti ta' Marsa u Delimara mill-Awtorità tal-Ippjanar.