

## A-Core Container

# New Zealand flywheel energy storage project bidding



## Overview

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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.

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.

Will Huntly assets support New Zealand's energy security?

Off the back of its experience in Winter 2024, Genesis asked KPMG and Concept Consulting to assess the future requirement for Huntly assets to support New Zealand’s energy security over the short, medium, and long term. Key takeaways from this report:.

What is New Zealand's First Utility-scale battery energy storage system?

New Zealand welcomed its first utility-scale battery energy storage system earlier this year. The 35 MW/35 MWh Rotohiko battery facility commenced operation with electricity distribution company WEL Networks in April, after completing testing and commissioning.

Will Infratec build a new energy storage system in New Zealand?

Infratec general manager Nick Bibby said that the storage system is “the first of its scale to be built in New Zealand”. As reported by Energy-Storage.news, the two companies completed their assessment of the project in late 2021, selecting a site in Huntly, a town in the Waikato District.

What can New Zealand do to improve energy resilience?

WEL Networks and Infratec said they are actively pursuing other opportunities to enhance resilience and increase access to renewable energy in the region. New Zealand currently has a couple of 1MW battery storage systems in operation, but certainly nothing on the scale of the BESS in Huntly.

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