

Red Sands Battery Energy Storage System Achieves Commercial Close in South Africa

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Globeleq, an independent power producer, and African Rainbow Energy, a leading renewable energy developer, today announced the successful commercial close of the 153 MW/612 MWh Red Sands Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in South Africa’s Northern Cape province.

This significant milestone was achieved following the signing of crucial project agreements between South Africa’s Department of Electricity and Energy and the National Transmission Company of South Africa (NTCSA). The Red Sands BESS is now projected to commence commercial operation in 2027.

“This project underscores our capability to deliver large-scale, clean energy infrastructure that addresses the evolving power requirements across the African continent,” stated **Jonathan Hoffman, CEO of Globeleq.**

The state-of-the-art facility, situated on a five-hectare site near Eskom’s Garbona substation, is designed to enhance grid stability and energy security. It will strategically charge from surplus solar power generated in the region and discharge during periods of peak electricity demand. Furthermore, the Red Sands BESS will provide essential grid-stabilizing ancillary services, including reserves and load shifting, and contribute to alleviating grid congestion in the Northern Cape.

Sungrow, a global leader in solar equipment supply, will provide the battery energy storage system for the project and will also oversee a 15-year operations and maintenance contract, ensuring long-term performance and reliability.

The Red Sands BESS represents the final project from the inaugural bid window of the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy's Battery Energy Storage IPP Procurement Program to reach commercial close, marking a significant advancement in South Africa's commitment to renewable energy integration and grid modernization.