



Average MW scale storage system price per 5kWh in Chile

Are battery energy storage systems a viable alternative for Chilean power producers?

With transmission lines at overcapacity and permitting delays slowing the development of new grid infrastructure, battery energy storage systems (BESS) have surged as a profitable alternative for Chilean power producers.

How many energy storage projects are in Chile?

Currently, 36 of the 129 large-scale projects Latin America projects with an energy storage component under development are in Chile, including 32 out of 71 of the region's early works projects. The storage technologies either in use or being considered include:

How much battery storage capacity does Chile have?

According to data from Acera, the Chilean Renewable Energy Association, there are only 64 MW of battery storage capacity currently active, representing 0.2% of national capacity. AES Andes, a subsidiary of U.S. company AES Corp. operates all 64 MW at their Angamos and Los Andes substations.

How can Chile keep up with the changing energy demand landscape?

Chile is exploring a variety of solutions to keep abreast of the changing energy demand landscape ranging from BESS to innovative projects using CO₂. In March 2024, BESS Coya, the largest battery-based energy storage system in Latin America, started operations.

How much does a battery cost in Chile?

In fact, batteries charged at nearly \$0/MWh during the day in the sunny, northern desert regions of Chile, sell energy at night for over \$100/MWh. Although projects such as Engie's BESS Coya are already enjoying these large spreads, this capacity payment will partially de-risk Chile's dependence on volatile, but still profitable, merchant revenues.

How much does a MWh system cost?

MWh (Megawatt-hour) is a measure of energy capacity (how long the system can continue delivering that power output). For example, a 1 MW / 4 MWh BESS has four hours of storage capacity. So, while the system might be \$200,000 per MW, the effective cost can be \$800,000 per MWh if it has four hours duration.



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