

Belgium flow battery technology

"We have taken care of the conceptual study, the tender process and the integration of the different modules, and we will also be responsible for the maintenance of the battery system during the 4-year test period. Equans are experts in assisting their clients in the areas of energy transition, industrial and digital transition. We see the Redox Flow battery technology as a sustainable, robust and future-proof solution, and we are particularly proud that we can take part in this first industrial-scale trial", says Mark Dirckx, CEO at Equans BeLux.

Jan De Nul Group shapes water and land. Through a creative and innovative approach, we achieve sustainable and successful results. With us, the client can rest assured. Today, but also tomorrow.

The 25MW/75MWh Li-ion project is due for completion by the end of this year, with 40 containerised BESS solutions provided by battery manufacturer and storage system integrator Saft, owned by TotalEnergies.

It is the energy company's largest battery project in Europe to date, and TotalEnergies used the occasion of the minister's visit to announce a second project of equal sizing and capacity in the country, roughly a year after the Antwerp refinery project was announced.

Also being deployed at one of TotalEnergies' petrochemicals refineries, this time in Fuloy, Wallonia province, the project will again have a power rating of 25MW to 75MW capacity, for a 3-hour duration. As with the Antwerp project, Saft's Intensium Max High-Energy BESS solution will be used.

TotalEnergies aims to develop 5GW of its own battery storage projects globally by 2030. It has already delivered four projects in France which were awarded 129MW of ancillary services contracts from the grid operator RTE.

As with the two new projects in Belgium, TotalEnergie's French BESS sites are all located at various refineries and platforms the company owns and operates, benefiting from available land and perhaps more importantly, grid connections.

In January, TotalEnergies acquired German BESS developer Kyon Energy, for EUR90 million (US\$98 million) upfront, plus further payments linked to development targets, while a few months back in October, the French company switched on a 255MWh Saft BESS at a solar PV plant in Texas, US.

Within Belgium, TotalEnergies has a combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) power plant, a pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) plant and an offshore wind farm, while it is also developing further wind plants and solar PV projects.

Belgium is becoming a market that represents good opportunities for battery storage assets, due to its

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congested grid with a rising share of renewable energy. In an Energy-Storage.news webinar to be hosted tomorrow (4 April) with consultancy Clean Horizon, Bart Pyke of Belgian route-to-market optimiser Yuso will discuss the business case and fundamental drivers for storage in the country's energy markets.

Last week (27 March), minister Van Straeten was at the inauguration of a 0.8MWh vanadium redox flow battery (VRFB) system co-located with a 0.6MW solar PV array at an industrial site in the East Flanders city of Aalst.

Provided by Anglo-American flow battery tech company Invinity Energy Systems in partnership with the Belgian subsidiary of another French multinational, ENGIE, and energy and technical services firm EQUANS, the flow battery is installed at the headquarters of Jan De Nul, a civil engineering firm.

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