

## Kongres Container

# Does Albania have enough lithium for battery energy storage



## Overview

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Well, Tirana's new 84MW/168MWh battery storage system – the largest in Southeast Europe – is flipping that script. Operational since February 2025, this \$73 million project stabilizes a grid where renewable energy penetration jumped from 12% to 34% in just three years [4]. Albania's hydro-dependent.

Vega Solar and Indian company Sainik Industries – Getsun Power agreed to build the first lithium ion battery factory in Albania. It would have 100 MW in annual capacity. The energy transition implies vast solar and wind power capacity, but with energy storage systems that can keep unstable.

In a strategic move set to catalyse Albania's journey towards energy independence, Vega Solar has partnered with Sainik Industries – Getsun Power, heralding the construction of the nation's inaugural lithium ion battery factory. This pioneering project, announced amid the backdrop of an

As Europe's energy landscape evolves faster than a TikTok trend, Albania is stepping up with this 100-megawatt/400-megawatt-hour lithium-ion battery system, set to become operational by late 2026 [1]. This project isn't just about storing electrons – it's about rewriting the rules of energy.

Fast forward to today, and the Tirana Times lithium energy storage installation is making good on that vow. But why lithium, and why no When the lights flickered during last winter's energy crisis, Tirana's mayor made a promise that turned heads: "By 2025, we'll be the Balkan battery." Fast forward.

But here's the kicker - their current grid can only store enough power to cover 28 minutes of peak demand. That's like trying to climb Mount Dajti with flip-flops! Last winter's blackouts affected 40% of Tirana businesses [2], exposing three critical vulnerabilities: Wait, no - it's not just about. Will Albania build its first lithium ion battery plant?

Chief Executive Officer Bruno Papaj said the firm signed a memorandum of understanding with an Indian investor on the construction of Albania's first lithium ion battery plant. The facility is planned to come online within two years, with 100 MW in annual capacity.

Why does Tirana need Vega Solar?

Furthermore, the country is exposed to drought and often turns to emergency imports. Tirana-based Vega Solar, which develops, installs and maintains rooftop solar power plants, saw an opportunity to contribute to diversification with battery energy storage systems.

Does Albania have a hydropower plant?

Hydropower makes up almost the entire domestic output in Albania, which helps balancing to a point, but it has no pumped storage hydropower plants. Furthermore, the country is exposed to drought and often turns to emergency imports.

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