

# Building the ASEAN grid using firmed renewables

A case study of scaling up hybrid and ESS technology projects

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## A Leading Track-Record in Asia

### Technical Advisor to >260GW of renewable projects in the last 10 years

of wind (offshore and

Pacific

onshore) power projects,

including 20GW in Asia

of hydro power projects, including 40GW in Asia Pacific

120GW 70GW 70GW

of solar power projects, including 40GW in Asia Pacific

30**G**W

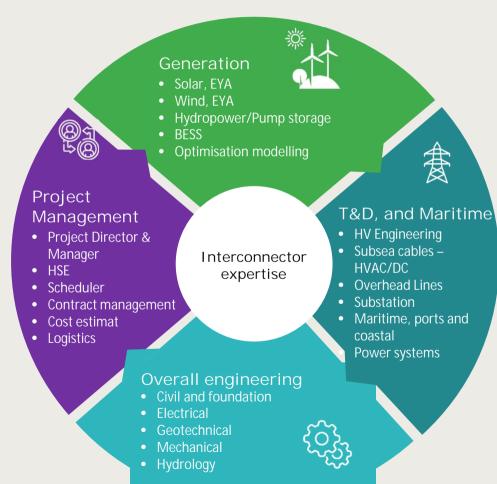
30GWh

of power transfer capability in Cables related projects

of BESS projects, including 20GWh in Asia Pacific

### **Integrated cross sector expertise**

Interconnector projects require intimate knowledge of multiple disciplines, integrated for successful completion. We have this capability and expertise.



### Our Offshore Interconnector Experience

We bring practical experience on some of the world's iconic interconnector projects, embedded links and HVDC offshore connections

#### Our expertise:

- Selection of cable route, landfall and grid connection
- Technology selection and sizing
- Support with route surveys, metocean studies, cable burial risk assessments per Carbon Trust
- Front-end engineering design (FEED) and EPC procurement package development
- Review of EPC tender returns, technical specifications, implementation and operation plans, financial model, O&M strategies, and project risks.
- Contracts development for delivery, operation and maintenance of the interconnector
- Reliability & availability assessment
- Testing and commissioning of interconnector and postenergisation problems resolution

#### USA

- Clean Path New York 1300MW HVDC project to supply renewable energy to New York
- Beacon Wind HVDC solution to connect offshore wind to the US mainland
- Humboldt offshore wind HVDC solution to connect offshore wind
- Birch Creek Embedded HVDC link 2GW 525kV VSC

#### Ireland

- Greenlink Interconnector to Wales (504MW VSC)
- Celtic Interconnector to France (700MW VSC)

South America

project

Brazil – Novatrans transmission

Ireland-Wales HVDC Interconnector

# to GB North Sea Wind Power Hub – Connection of offshore wind and hydrogen facilities using HVDC technology France-Italy HVDC Interconnector

#### **United Kingdom**

- ➤ Sofia VSC Offshore windfarm ElecLink VSC HVDC Interconnector UK-France
- Offshore Transmission Owner Due Diligence and Operations Monitoring
- NeuConnect 1400MW VSC interconnector to Germany
- Western Link LCC HVDC Embedded Link between England and Scotland
- ➤ East Coast portfolio of HVDC embedded links (2GW VSC 525kV solutions)
- Caithness/Moray/Shetland world's first multi-terminal HVDC interconnector
- Confidential client 2GW VSC 525kV framework solutions
- FA1 LCC HVDC interconnector between GB and France
- > GB Europe HVDC interconnector
- Greenwich MVDC Project

#### Japan

Ukujima VSC interconnector connecting solar farm on an island to mainland transmission system

Western Europe/North Africa

Xlinks – 2xHVDC links connecting 11.5GW

installed capacity renewables in Morocco

#### Australia

Marinus Link – 750MW interconnector between Tasmania and Victoria

#### South-East Asia

- HVDC/AC subsea Interconnector Projects (Confidential)
- Java Sumatra HVDC connection 2600MW

#### Middle East

- Abu Dhabi Offshore Long-Term Power Supply Masterplan 3GW HVDC offshore network
- ADNOC Lightning/Zirko HVDC interconnectors for electrification of offshore oil and gas

### What's new?

Why now for firmed renewables?

Solar and onshore wind power lower cost than alternatives for 96% of new global capacity from 2023\*

Solar with BESS becoming competitive with mid-merit coal and gas-fired plant in ASEAN

But subject to a maximum grid penetration limit...

Industry demand for firm RE due to RE100 and EU carbon border – changing drivers for governments

Limits can be addressed by storage, interconnection to larger demand centers, or both...

Lower-cost firm RE possible through cross-border imports? Especially with pump-storage...

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Renewables 2023", IEA, as revised January 2024

# Mid-merit Hybrid – 3.5GWp PV / 4.5GWh BESS

#### **Project Owner**

Terra Solar Philippines Inc. (TSPI)

# Mid-merit renewable power

Annual average load factor of 50%, at a competitively tendered tariff

#### Location

Nueva Ecija, Luzon, Philippines

#### Land Area

3,500 hectares, almost the same size as Pasig City

#### **Opportunity**

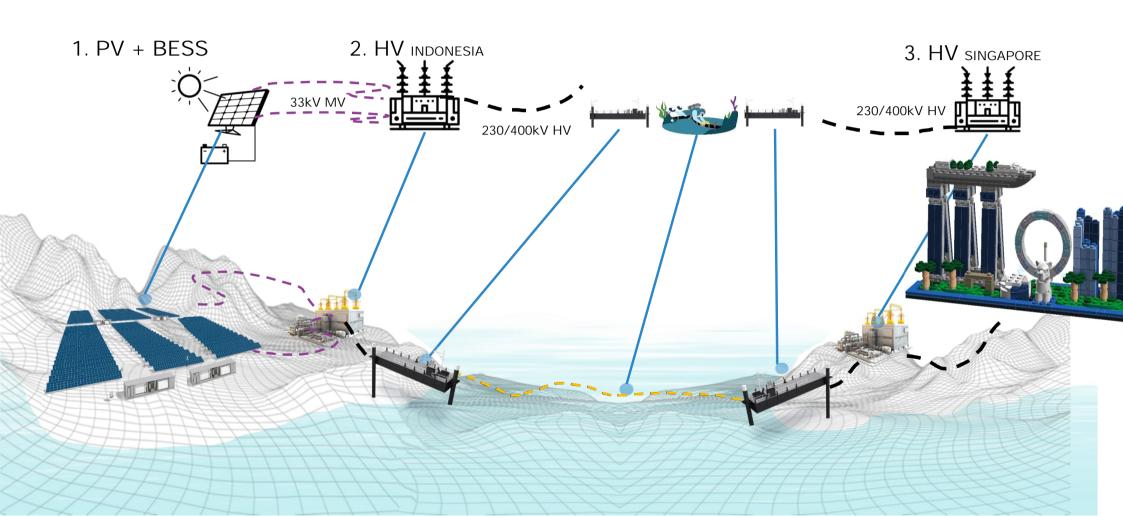
TSPI executed a Power Supply Agreement (PSA) to provide firm 600MW in 2026 and increasing to 850MW in 2027 during peak hours from 8am to 9pm from the solar PV and BESS, at a power tariff competitive with traditional thermal mid-merit plants. Groundbreaking occurred in November 2024 and debt financing of ₱150B (US\$2.7B) closed in April 2025.

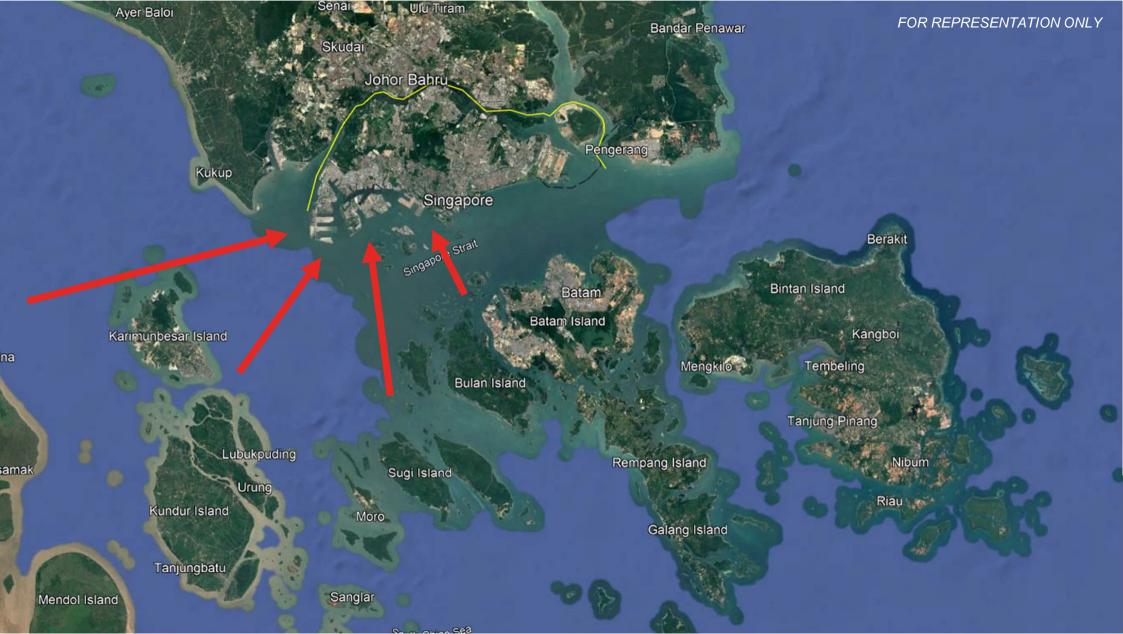
### Challenges

- Design to meet PSA firmed dispatch requirements, with maximum flexibility to additionally provide wholesale power exports and future ancillary services
- EPC contracting strategy to facilitate a globally unprecedented rate of PV deployment, at up to 160MW per month
- Site-wide infrastructure design and transport logistics, to facilitate parallel activity by multiple contractors
- Huge construction workforce the project owner has projected up to 20,000 workers needed



# Firmed Solar imports to Singapore from the Riau islands





# Renewable Energy Imports from the Riau Islands

Multi gigawatt-scale Solar-BESS hybrids with 0.3-1GW Subsea Cables

#### **Project Owners**

Seven conditional concessionaires

#### Location

Various Riau islands, Indonesia

# Mid-merit renewable power

Importing firmed renewable power to Singapore, under conditional licenses / awards issued by the Energy Market Authority (EMA)

### **Opportunity**

Under Singapore's energy transition, the nation aims to meet 30% of electricity needs with renewable imports by 2035.

Seven developers have secured either a Conditional License or Conditional Award for import of 3.4 GW of firmed renewable energy from Indonesia to Singapore via high-voltage subsea power cables.

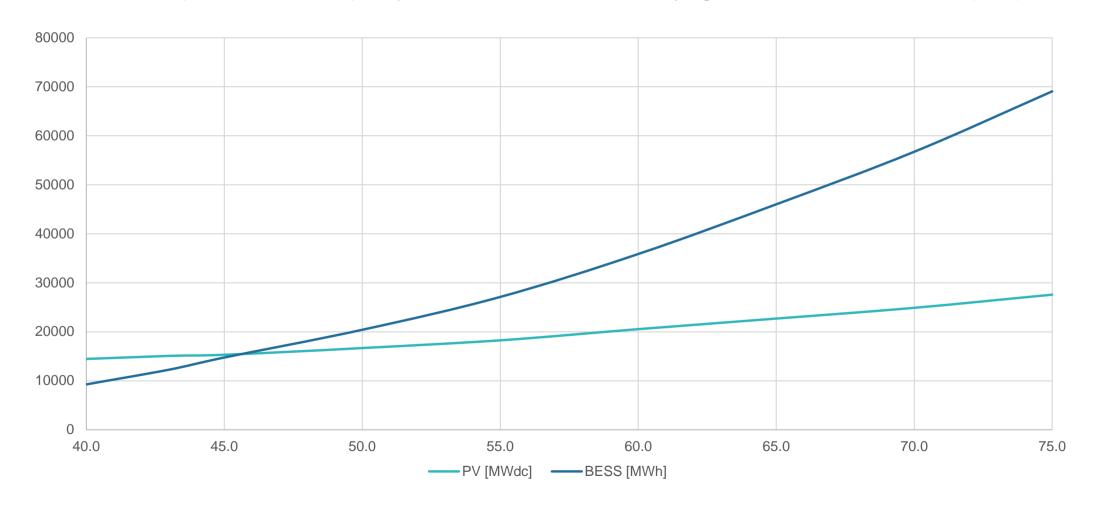
### Challenges

- Constrained subsea corridors, landing points and grid interconnections for subsea cables landing in Singapore
- Indonesian local content (TKDN) for PV modules and BESS
   requires giga-scale new equipment manufacturing facilities
- Multiple multi-gigawatt deployments in parallel will strain supply chain and EPC contracting capacity
- Complex marine logistics for isolated island project locations
- EMA and power retailer coordination to balance extent of power output firming with affordability to customers



## 3.4GW Firmed Renewable Energy Imports from the Riau Islands

Scenarios for required installed capacity of Solar PV and BESS, varying annual Plant Load Factor (PLF)



# Wider implications for ASEAN energy transformation

1

# Diversified generation

Firming RE with hybrid solar / wind / hydro / BESS will be even lower cost

4

# In-region PV and BESS manufacture

Potential to unlock greater regional value from RE use 2

# The new role of BESS

No longer only grid support; time shifting now cost-effective for 50-60% load factors

5

### ASEAN grid

How to plan around integration of captive interconnectors?

3

# Other energy storage

Pump-storage can play a wider role ub firming, including for cross-border power flows

6

# Subsea interconnection

How to unlock supply chain constraints?

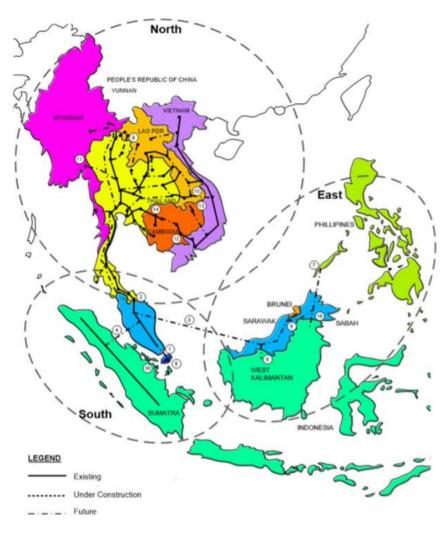


Figure source: "ASEAN Interconnection Masterplan Study III Report", 2021

# Thank you



#### **Philip Napier-Moore**

Mott MacDonald's Energy Sector Leader for Asia, responsible for the Group's regional support to clients on the global energy transition.

Working across the energy value chain for over 20 years, he has supported multilateral agencies, national governments and diverse private companies on low-carbon power projects in 30 countries around the world, in particular within Asia and Europe.

With a focus on utility-scale solar and wind power, from their infancy in the region in 2008, he has supported more than 80 GW of projects in Asia, including several hundred plants now successfully in operation.

A Chartered Engineer and Fellow of the Energy Institute, he obtained his Masters of Engineering from Oxford University.

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