## SOLAR

## Tokelau solar power supply system

Tokelau - located just south of the equator, with nearly constant solar irradiation year-round - is an ideal candidate for photovoltaics. The three atolls of Fakaofo, Nukunonu and Atafu now operate their own hybrid systems. With 1 megawatt of total power, the plants generate more energy than the 1,411 inhabitants of Tokelau need.

Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully today welcomed the completion of a third New Zealand-funded solar power system in Tokelau - meaning almost 100 per cent of the territory"s electricity needs are met through solar generation.

The 4,032 solar panels (with a capacity of around one megawatt), 392 inverters, and 1,344 batteries provide 150 percent of their current electricity demand, allowing the Tokelauans to eventually...

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Work started in mid-June 2012 on the one megawatt Tokelau Renewable Energy Project, which is comprised of three individual solar power systems with battery storage. Each system alone is among the largest off-grid solar power systems in the world, and together they are capable of providing 150% of current electricity demand in Tokelau, a much ...

Foreign Affairs Minister Murray McCully today welcomed the launch of Tokelau"s first solar power system. It is the first of three systems that, when fully operational, will provide almost 100 per cent of Tokelau"s power.

Solar Array"s seen on the three tiny islands of Tokelau to completely produce solar power energy. The renewable energy system comprising of solar panels, storage batteries and generators running on biofuel derived from coconut will generate enough electricity to meet 150% of the islands" power demand.

Tokelau"s solar energy system is set to be upgraded on each of its three atolls. Jointly funded by the governments of Tokelau and New Zealand, the \$NZ9 million (\$USD5.7m) system will be installed by New Zealand company Vector PowerSmart.

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Initially the solar system will supply a mini-grid consisting of several households, but in the medium term it will be fully integrated with the existing diesel supplied power grid in Fakaofo. The Government of Tokelau sees the PV Project as the first step and therefore trial towards the long-term goal of energy independence based on renewable ...

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