

Solomon Power



Expanding Generation Expanding Network

Presentation by Hemant Kumar
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Solomon Islands Electricity Authority
Trading as Solomon Power



Solomon Islands

- Nine Provinces
- Over 900 small islands spread over vast area of Sea
- Population @ 512,000. Honiara – @70,000.
- Foot print of electricity - very small.
 - Access in Urban Honiara – 64%
 - Access in rest of the country – 6%
- Grid connected electricity – 12 % of the Population

Strategic Goal

- Accessibility of electricity to all Solomon Islanders - 2050.
 - Foot print of electricity in the Nation is very small, and penetration of electricity is less than 16% in the Country.
- Increasing affordability of electricity.

Key Challenges (1)

- Increasing the foot Print of electricity
 - Population spread over many islands
 - Physical accessibility
 - Land Issues/ Consultation Process
 - Network expansion – Building in Road Reserve

Challenges in getting there



Port facilities for larger vessels required



Land Issues – Customary Land - Consultation



Key Challenges (2)

- cost of electricity - is one of the highest in the South Pacific.
 - Pricing regulation is purely based on price of diesel
 - Over reliance on diesel
 - Deters potential customers from joining the network
 - The network is concentrated in Honiara
- Connection cost is high – in house wiring/service connection

Strategy 1 -Least Cost Generation - Expansion

- Renewal sources of energy will reduce the price
- Micro – grid – Mini grid – Hybrid 415V generation systems (Solar, Batteries, back up diesel). Cash Power pre-pay meters
- Only two staff per site
- Modular design for scalability - @150 + connections
- 40 Mini Hybrid Systems planned in the Islands
- 3 already approved -being implemented. 37 prioritised.
- planning studies has commenced for additional ten sites.

Strategy 2 - Existing network expansion

Reduction in Tariff

- 15,400 customers at present
- Double this to 30,000 by 2021
- Increase in customer base will reduce price
- Reduction in fixed cost per customer
- Reduction in tariffs
- Proposed Output Based Aid Program of World Bank to subsidise house connections and wiring

Grid-Connected Solar Power Plants

- Support from ADB
- Total 2 MW of Hybrid (Solar, battery storage and diesel back up)
- At existing outstations in Munda, Malu'u, Tulagi, Lata and Kirakira
- These will replace the existing only diesel generation systems
- Project to be executed during 2016-2019

Who should take the Lead?

- What comes first economic growth or electricity infrastructure
- Chicken and egg situation
- Economic growth and electricity go hand in hand
- Solomon Power is taking the lead
- There will be growth wherever network exists

- Thank you.