

# Barbados to launch first hydrogen project

Barbados will open the offices of its first hydrogen project this week, as the island continues to implement measures to build out the energy sector.

Minister of Energy and Business, Senator Lisa Cummins made the disclosure Thursday night while addressing a reception hosted by the British High Commissioner Scott Fursessedonn-Wood, for participants in the UK's 2024 Trade & Investment Mission to Barbados, organised by the Department For Business and Trade in partnership with Invest Barbados and Renfrewshire Business Network.

## Wind project coming soon

She also announced that Barbados' long-mooted wind project to produce higher megawatts of energy will get off the ground in January, saying: "We will be launching the long talked-about wind project - 30 to 60 megawatts. Initially, we started with 30-50 megawatts, now we are increasing the size based on the studies that have been completed."

Updating the visitors on developments in the local energy sector, Cummins noted Barbados has been a world leader in the renewable energy

sector, boasting among the highest density of solar penetration for countries of its size, in the world. She stated that Barbados became the first country in the entire Caribbean to have launched its first public procurement for battery energy storage systems.

## First phase of the procurement

"We have begun the process of onboarding 150 megawatts of battery energy storage systems and representatives of the business community, much like yourselves, functioning in the supplier space for battery energy storage systems, are invited to partner with local businesses to be able to submit bids for procurement as part of that procurement," Cummins said. She explained the first phase of the procurement was 60 megawatts "because we are restricting that procurement to our transmission lines," but advised a second tranche of procurement would be offered in January 2025, "to allow us to integrate both transmission lines and distribution lines".

This, she added, was yet another opportunity for Barbados to collaborate with Scottish and UK



Minister of Energy and Business, Senator Lisa Cummins addressing guests last week Thursday at the networking reception hosted for visiting UK and Scottish business people. (Picture by Reco Moore.)

businesses in the areas of wind, solar PV, and battery energy storage systems. (GC)

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