# Lessons from Operating a BESS for the First Time

Challenges, Insights & Analytics

## **Speakers**



Vijandren Naidoo

Director of Energy Storage & Grid Integration

<u>vijandren.naidoo@brookfield.com</u>

Brookfield



Laura Perez Amigo
Operations Manager
laura@interenergy.com
InterEnergy



Ryan Franks
Senior Technical Solutions Engineer
<a href="mailto:franks@twaice.com">franks@twaice.com</a>
TWAICE

## Agenda

- 1. ESS industry challenges and opportunities from the executive viewpoint
- 2. Project Background: InterEnergy's FV3 BESS
  - Project Introduction
  - · Commissioning timeline
  - · Key challenges and lessons learned
- 3. Analytics in Action: Using Data to Overcome Operational Hurdles
  - Real-time issue detection (non-functioning modules, data outages)
  - Warranty tracking
- 4. Panel Q&A Session

## **Key Objectives**

- 1. Obtain a deeper understanding of safety and performance of operating BESS assets through a more granular level
- 2. Obtain a better understanding of the risks associated with the commissioning of new BESS assets
- 3. Learn about the competency and expertise of BESS integrators &/or OEM's including their willingness to support the projects
- 4. Value that be obtained from using 3<sup>rd</sup> party analytics platforms

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### **CEPM ZERO**

Consorcio Energético Punta Cana-Macao (CEPM) is an independent utility located in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, operating off-grid from the National Electric System (SENI). With an installed thermal capacity of over 350 MW. CEPM supplies energy to approximately 65% of the country's tourism sector.

CEPM ZERO is the initiative that aims to transition CEPM to carbon neutrality the next decade.



PHASE 1 2024/25

215 MW of solar PV projects.

115MW/149MWh Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)



PHASE 2 2026/28

Development of wind farms with a capacity of **200MW** and BESS of **40MW/80MWH** 



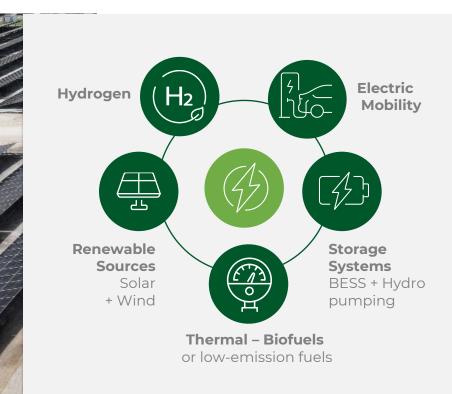
Other technologies and scenarios are being evaluated to provide grid stability

**70MW/800MWh**Pumped hydro (Storage)

**200MW** Hydrogen **145MW 300MW**BESS Wind pro

560MW

Wind projects Solar projects









BES

**INSTALLED CAPACITY** 

**INSTALLED ENERGY** 

40.6<sub>MWh</sub> AC

**COUPLING** 

**20 ESS** of 2.032 MWh each 60 PCS of 200 kW each 2 STS of 6 MW each **4 DTS** to cover auxiliary consumption of ~ 17kW each



**PV** modules RISEN RSM132-8-655/660MDG Bifacial



**String Inverter** Huawei 330KTL 300kWac 3 x STS JUPITER 6000K

**PEAK POWER** 

**NOMINAL POWER** 

≥ 24.5 MW 21.8 MW

#### **BESS FUNCTIONALITIES**

**PV** Firming Voltage regulation **Energy shifting** Fast Frequency Response (FFR) Virtual Sinchronous Machine (VSM) Black start

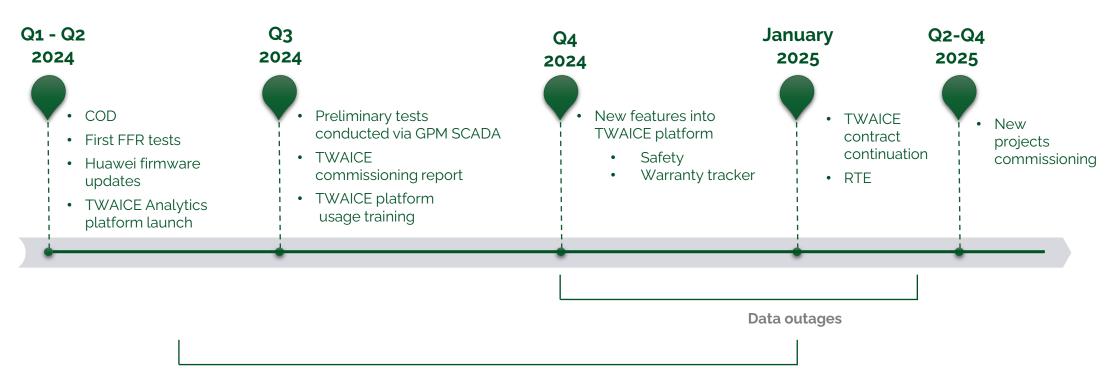


**Fixed Structure** 3Vx16 with 7° inclination Reneergy



**BESS** AC coupling -9 MW/36 MWh Huawei

## **TIMELINE OVERVIEW**



GPM and Huawei work to be able to control the FFR from GPM SCADA, independent from Huawei Software.

- Key issues resolved:
  - o Modbus communication
  - Full PCS activation

- Remaining challenges:
  - o Frequency oscillations
  - Over frequency behavior

In one day

one ESS

generates

18 billion data points

In one day
all ESS in 2030
will generate
over 400 trillion data points

### Advanced analytics turns BMS data into actionable insights



Raw data from BMS/EMS



Data ingested into TWAICE cloud



Data pre-processing& data storage



Predictive battery analytics: algorithms, safety rule detection & more

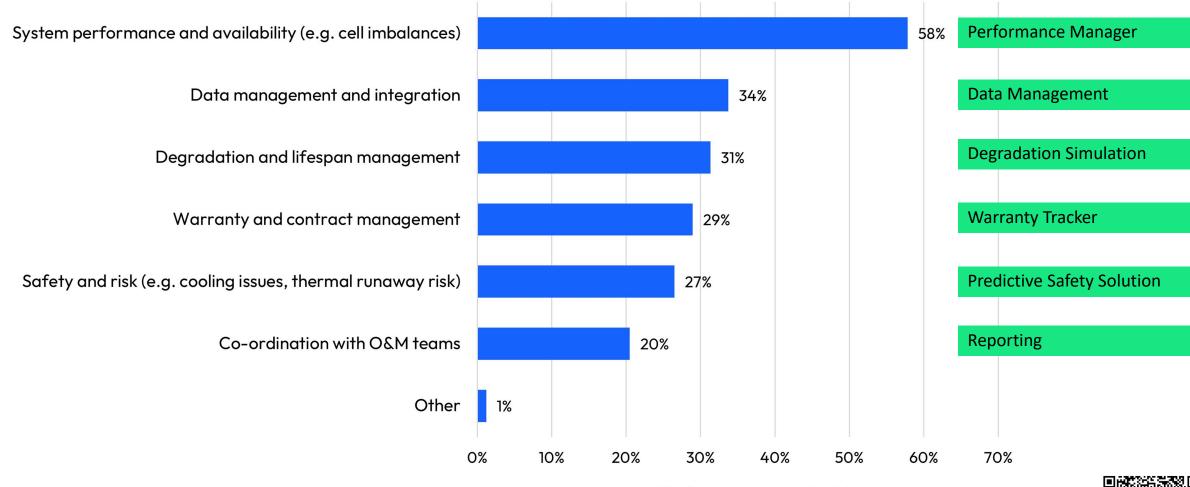


 Actionable insights on TWAICE user interface & email alerts

## Poll

Top challenges before BESS operations?

## **TWAICE Solutions to Top Challenges**



% of survey respondent (n = 83)





## Development, Engineering and Procurement

**Grid Code**. CEPM has its own grid, there was a need of developing a grid code for the BESS operation.

• The Grid Code lacked crucial specifications, resulting in incomplete firmware for the CEPM network and delays in fully operative system (FFR, black start functionalities).

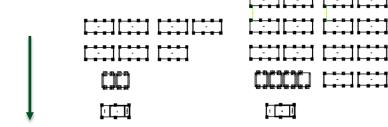
**Poor knowledge** of the technology in all stages, manufacturer, authorities, construction, O&M, grid operation, etc.

- Insufficient and inconsistency on technical documentation from the manufacturer.
- · Missing spare parts on site during commissioning.
- Contracts with room for improvement.
- Vague regulation with no clear requirements.

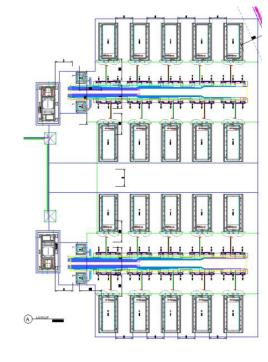
#### Integral solution.

During the RFP we found a few vendors with an integral solution.

#### **INITIAL LAYOUT**



#### **FINAL LAYOUT**







## **Operations and Maintenance**

Challenge to define the internal operations procedure.

New renewable energy dispatch center to operate the PPC

#### **Learning how to dispatch BESS** coming from the gas industry



#### **SCADA and PPC** configuration and readiness:

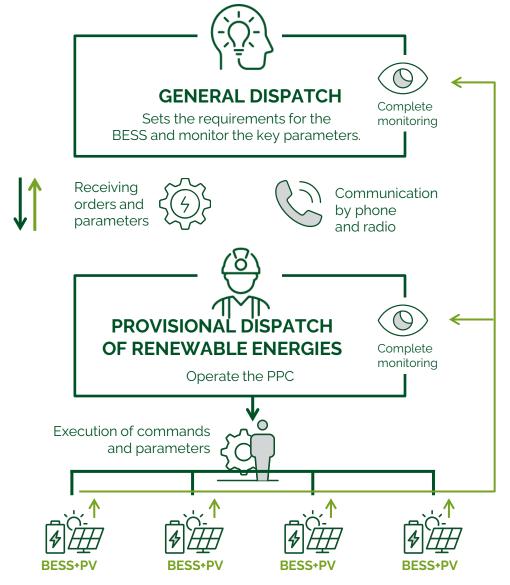
- · Early commissioning
- Need for both software systems to interact
- EMS for the global operation

#### **BESS KPIs**

Need for a tool for BESS analytics

#### **Guarantee Tracking.**

How to track availability and performance guarantee from Huawei.



Notify Central Dispatch CEPM of the BESS availability. Report any events or issues that may arise.

### Lower Costs - Digital Commissioning to pinpoint weak spots and baseline BESS

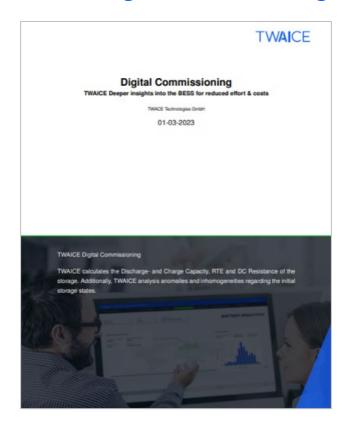
#### Challenge

- Majority ( of failure incidents happens in the first two years and around half are related to manufacturing and integration (<u>Joint case study with EPRI</u>)
- On-site measurements becoming more expensive & complex due to larger systems

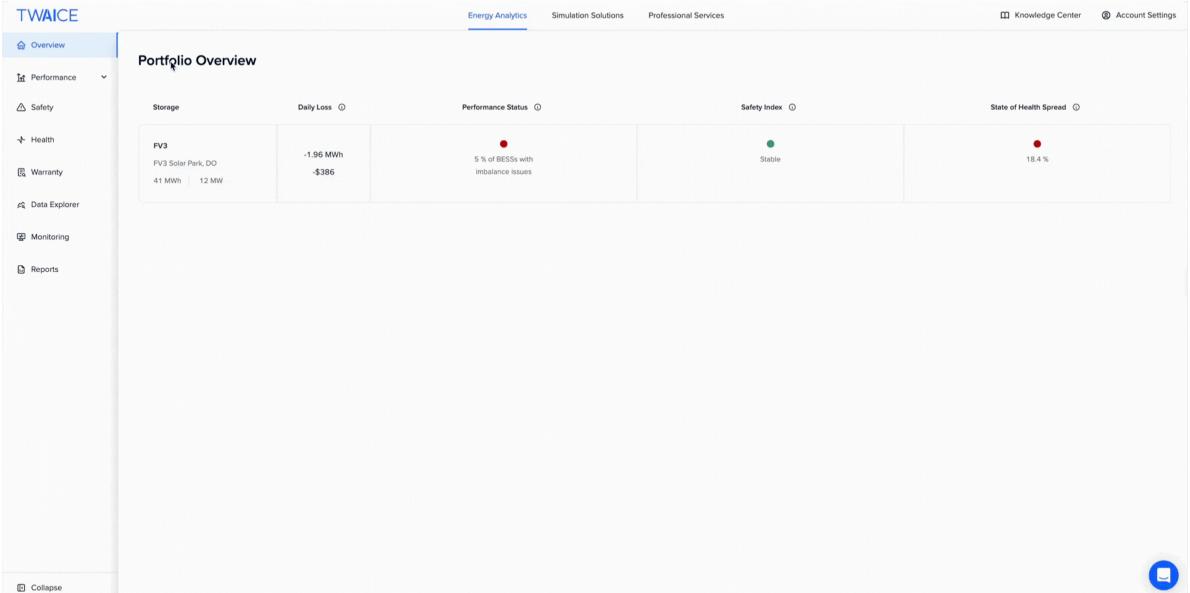
#### Solution

- ✓ Pinpointing anomalies in the system to guide onsite teams
- ✓ Baseline the system to ensure performance

#### **TWAICE Digital Commissioning**



## **Brookfield Commissioning**

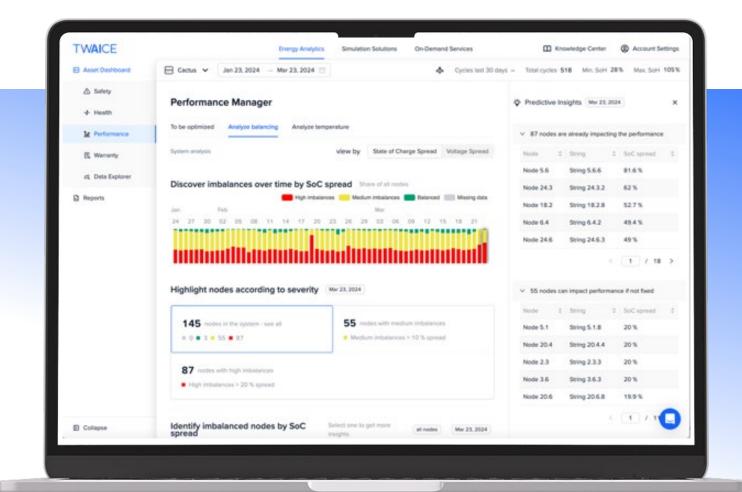


Improve availability by proactively identifying issues with the

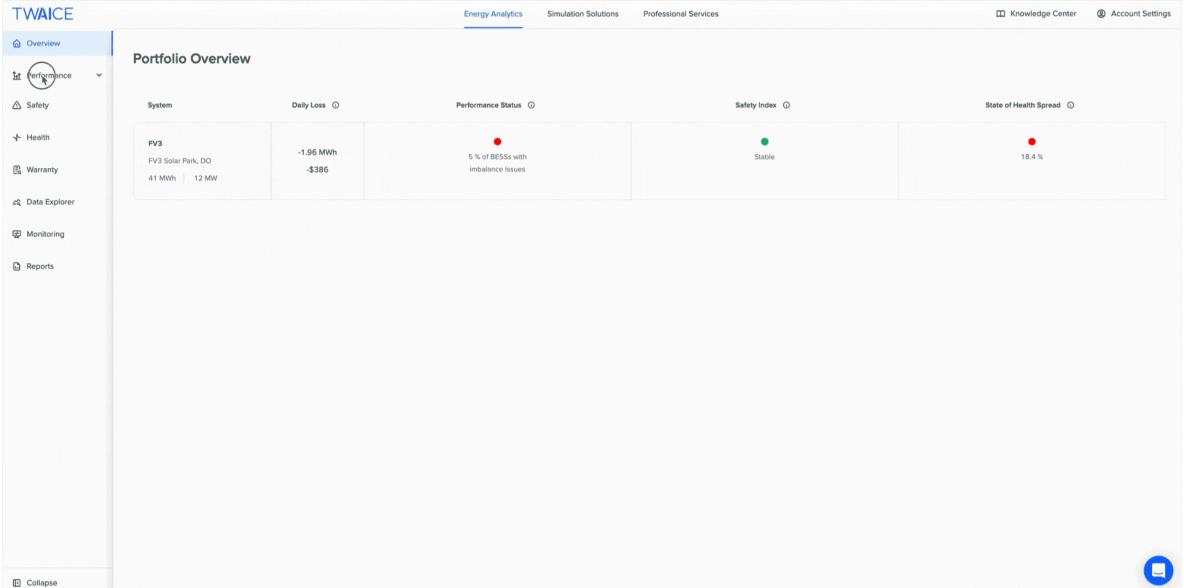
**Performance Manager** 

## Product Overview: Performance Manager

- Identify imbalances that lead to reduced capacity & unplanned SoC drop
- Pinpoint problematic components early and schedule preventive maintenance
- Identify system issues (e.g., underperforming thermal system)



### **Brookfield Performance Manager**





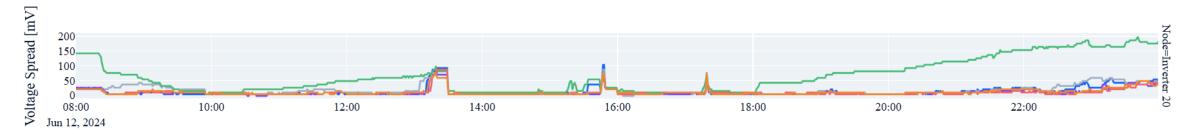
## Issue Detection using TWAICE's Commissioning Report and Performance Manager

#### **Commissioning Report - Reduced Capacity String**

Reduced capacity in String 20.4 due to a disconnected module, causing a significant voltage spread. Flagged by the TWAICE Performance Manager and System Monitoring modules.

#### **Result:**

InterEnergy filed a warranty claim with Huawei, which subsequently replaced the module.



#### Performance Manager - Energy Availability

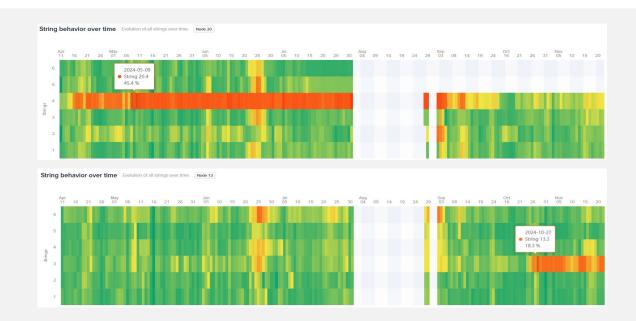
The Performance Manager identifies SOC imbalances, resulting in reduced available energy. However, the Huawei system's ability to bypass modules within a string minimizes capacity reduction during imbalances.

#### String 20.4

The imbalance was resolved after a module was replaced at the beginning of September.

#### **String 13.3**

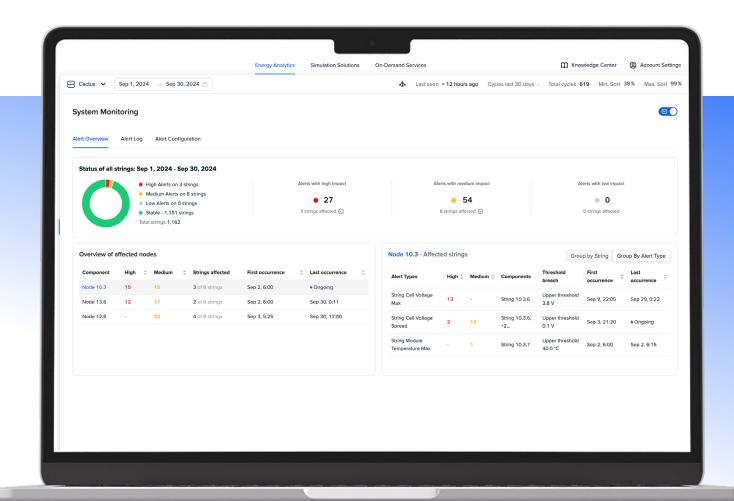
The imbalance started at the end of October and may still be ongoing.



### Track what is going on with your BESS with System Monitoring

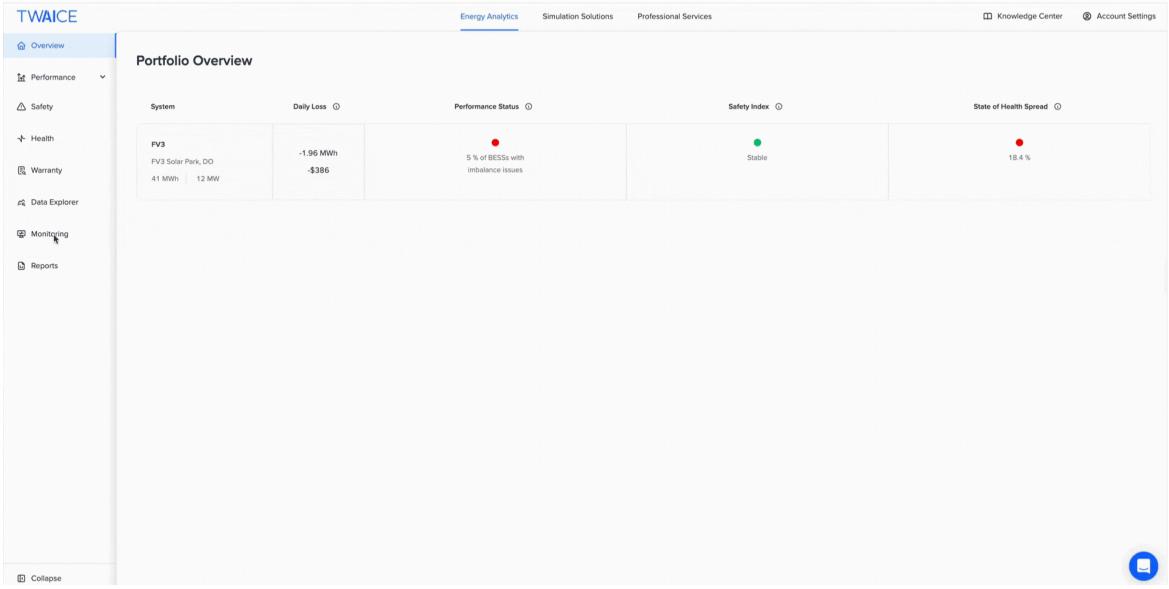
## **Product Overview: System Monitoring**

- Get a comprehensive overview of your system's status
- Monitor high, medium & low-impact alerts
- Turn on email alerts at the flick of a switch

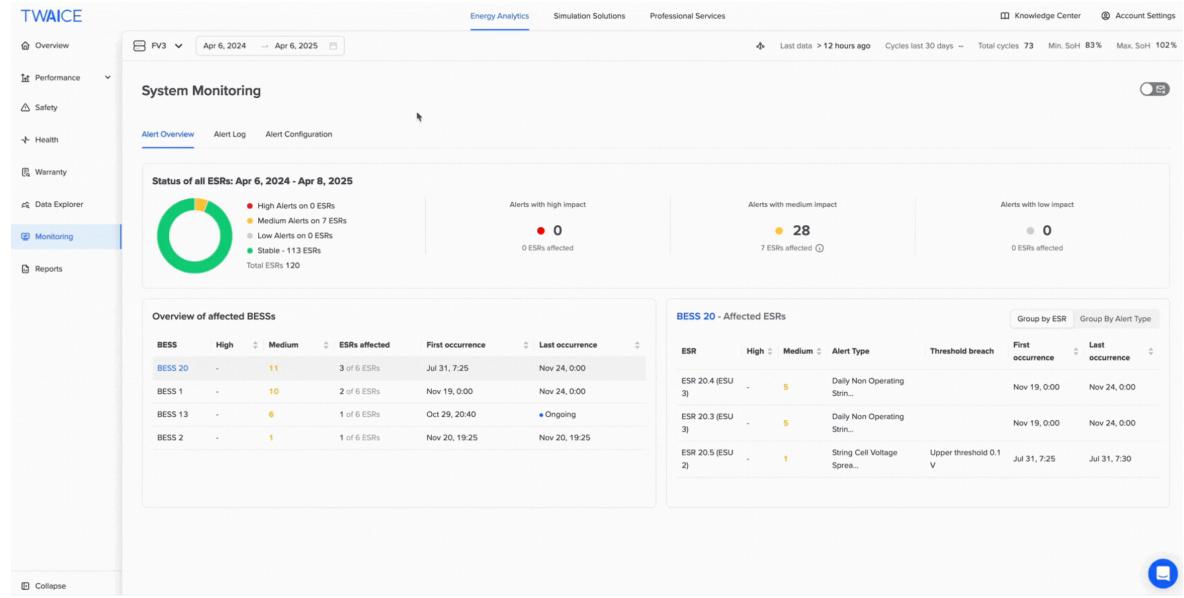


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## **Brookfield Data Outage**



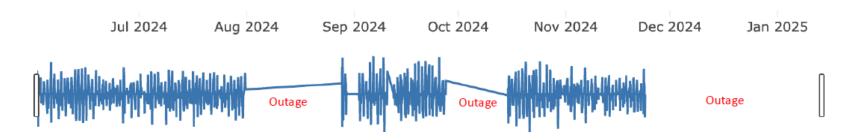
### **Brookfield Customer Naming**





## **Issue Detection Using TWAICE's System Monitoring**

TWAICE platform faced several data outages, primarily caused by SFTP file transfer interruptions. To improve this, an API integration between TWAICE & GPM is being developed and CEPM local team is working on a stable and reliable connection.



#### **Outage Dates:**

July 31 - August 28 (2024) September 10 - September 12 (2024) September 27 - October 15 (2024) November 23 - March (2025)

#### **Data Nomenclature**

#### **FV3 Sensor Naming**

TWAICE, GPM, and Huawei were using different naming conventions.

There is no standardization between manufacturers and users.

TWAICE incorporated customer-specific naming conventions into the platform alongside its standard naming conventions.



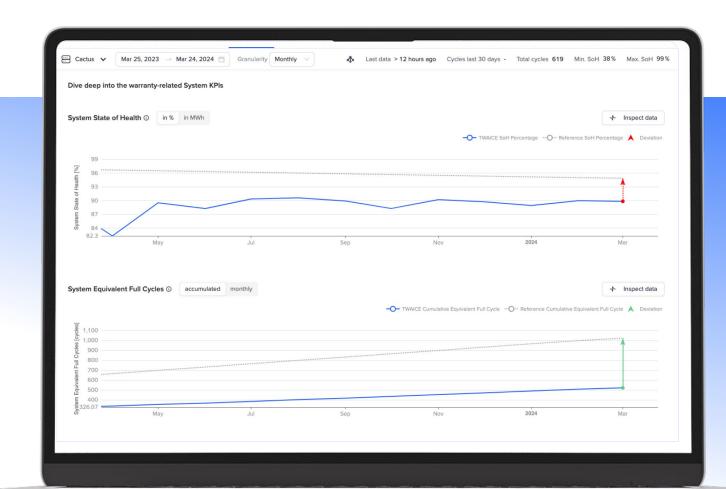
| □ @ ESR-1 | C E CAN'T |
|-----------|-----------|
| ● ESM-1   | ■ ESM-1   |
| ● ESM-2   | e ESM-2   |
| eSM-3     | ● ESM-3   |
| ● ESM-4   | ● ESM-4   |
| e ESM-5   | ● ESM-5   |
| ESM-6     | @ ESM-6   |
| e ESM-7   | e ESM-7   |
| ■ ESM-8   | @ ESM-8   |
| e ESM-9   | ● ESM-9   |
| e ESM-10  | ● ESM-10  |
| ● ESM-11  | ● ESM-11  |
| ■ ESM-12  | ● ESM-12  |
| ● ESM-13  | ● ESM-13  |
| ■ ESM-14  | ■ ESM-14  |
| ● ESM-15  | ● ESM-15  |
| ■ ESM-16  | ● ESM-16  |
| ● ESM-17  | ● ESM-17  |
| ● ESM-18  | ● ESM-18  |
| ■ ESM-19  | ● ESM-19  |
| ● ESM-20  | ● ESM-20  |
| ● FSM-21  | ● ESM-21  |

| <b>FV3 Signal Names</b> |                      |                   |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
|                         |                      |                   |
| TWAICE NAME             | GPM NAME             | HUAWEI NAME       |
| String 1.1              | ECS1.01.01.BCU-1 SOC | BESS01_ESU1_ESR01 |
| String 1.2              | ECS1.01.01.BCU-2 SOC | BESS06_ESU1_ESR06 |
| String 1.3              | ECS1.01.02.BCU-1 SOC | BESS02_ESU2_ESR02 |
| String 1.4              | ECS1.01.02.BCU-2 SOC | BESS05_ESU2_ESR05 |
| String 1.5              | ECS1.01.03.BCU-1 SOC | BESS03_ESU3_ESR03 |
| String 1.6              | ECS1.01.03.BCU-2 SOC | BESS04_ESU3_ESR04 |
| String 2.1              | ECS1.02.01.BCU-1 SOC | BESS01_ESU1_ESR01 |
| String 2.2              | ECS1.02.01.BCU-2 SOC | BESS06_ESU1_ESR06 |
| String 2.3              | ECS1.02.02.BCU-1 SOC | BESS02_ESU2_ESR02 |
| String 2.4              | ECS1.02.02.BCU-2 SOC | BESS05_ESU2_ESR05 |
| String 2.5              | ECS1.02.03.BCU-1 SOC | BESS03_ESU3_ESR03 |

### Automatically track BESS warranties & LTSAs with the Warranty Tracker

## **Product Overview:** Warranty Tracker

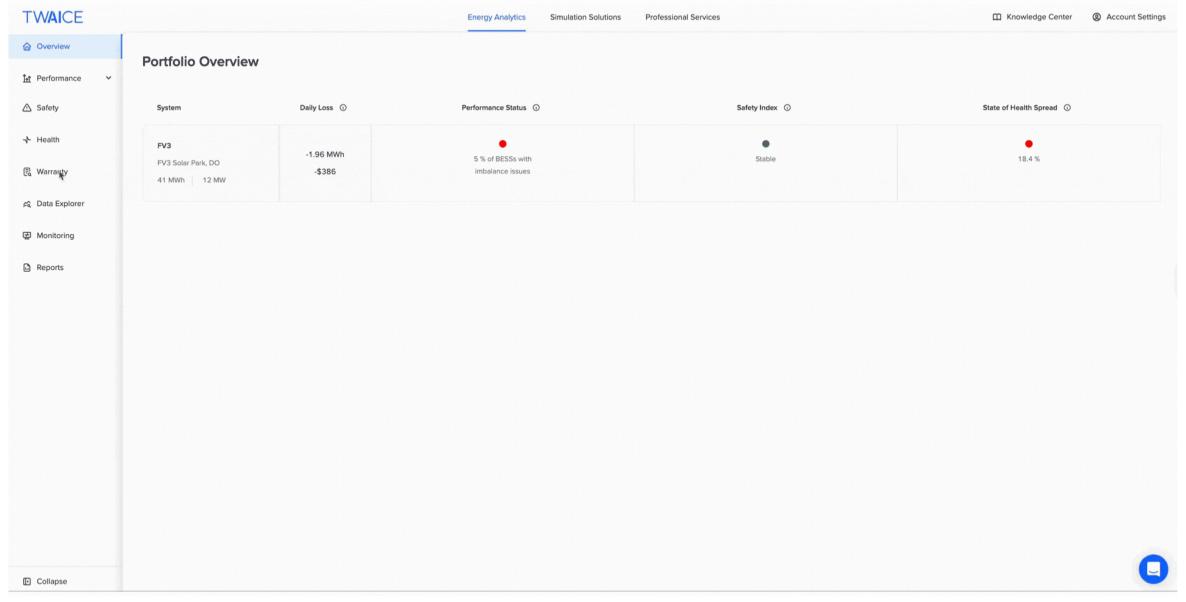
- Automatically track warranty indicators on a dashboard
- Support decision making and communication during disputes



## Poll

Requirements for availability reporting

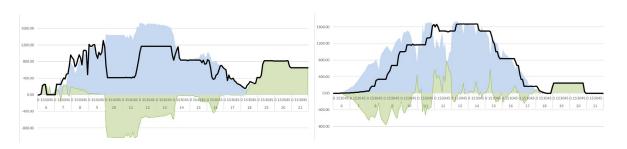
## **Brookfield Warranty**





## **Warranty Tracking**

Total Energy generated by the PV from January 1st until November 30th, 2024 36.53 GWh



**Total charge BESS: 8.35 GWh** (22% of the generated energy)

#### **Total discharge BESS: 6.82 GWh**

• RTE of ~82%

• 20% of the BESS always charged (limit SoC)

## Performance monitoring with specialized software (TWAICE) shows:

- Equivalent full cycles: 73
- Min. SoH: 93.2% (in a problematic string), the rest all above 101.1%
- Max. SoH: 114%

#### WARRANTY CONDITIONS YEAR 1

Equivalent full cycles: 365 SoH: 95.6%

TWAICE State of Health calculation





Through TWAICE platform it is possible to confirm that:

#### **System Condition:**

System in excellent overall condition.

#### **Safety & Monitoring:**

- No high-impact safety alerts.
- 4 non-operating string alerts under investigation.
- 1 medium-impact cell voltage spread alert, slightly affecting energy availability.

#### Performance:

- System balanced; only 2 strings with high imbalances (1 already repaired).
- Effective cooling with no high module temperatures.

#### Warranty & Availability:

- SOH exceeds expectations; EFCs are lower than anticipated.
- Consistent system availability above 96%.

### Combine powerful AI analytics with deep industry and technology know-how

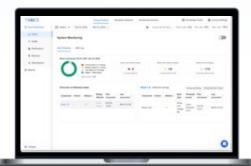
## EFFICIENTLY MANAGE YOUR BESS PORTFOLIO

- ✓ Optimize BESS health & lifetime
- Access dashboards & standardized KPIs
- Streamline communication with automated reports



## AVOID FIRES & REDUCE INSURANCE PREMIUMS

- Identify safety-relevant trends across your fleet
- ✓ Get alerts & recommendations



## IMPROVE AVAILABILITY & REVENUE

- Pinpoint components that are harming revenue
- ✓ Get recommendations on what to fix (e.g. balancing or replacing modules)



## AUTOMATICALLY TRACK BESS WARRANTIES & LTSAS

- Automatically track warranty indicators on a dashboard
- Support decision making and communication during disputes



## **Any questions? Contact us!**



Vijandren Naidoo

Director of Energy Storage & Grid Integration

vijandren.naidoo@brookfield.com

Brookfield



Laura Perez Amigo
Operations Manager
laura@interenergy.com
InterEnergy



Ryan Franks
Senior Technical Solutions Engineer
<a href="mailto:franks@twaice.com">franks@twaice.com</a>
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