SAUDI ARABIA / GRID STORAGE

October 2026 review · Published 24 November 2026

Saudi battery storage, Group 2: the deadline extension and what bidders should do now

SPPC defines six four-hour sites. MEED reported on 9 October, citing an unnamed source, that SPPC had extended the bid date to 12 November. The controlling documents for a bidder are the latest portal addendum and its own submission record.

12 GWh

Group 2 tendered energy capacity: 3,000 MW across six sites, each designed for four hours.

Storage programme size



Principal Buyer · four first-group agreements, Saudi government release · 20 Aug 2026 / Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026 / MEED · reported extension of Group 2 bids · 9 Oct 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The reported bid date has passed; the next action depends on the bidder's status

3 GW
Combined Group 2 discharge power

4 hours
Storage duration specified by SPPC

12 Nov
Extended bid date reported by MEED

For a consortium that submitted

Retain the electronic receipt, final submission and acknowledged amendments. Check the procurement portal for clarification requests, revised guarantees or bid-validity requirements. Any change in validity should be reflected in the back-to-back supplier offers.

For a supplier outside the submission

Contact a qualified consortium to establish which lots remain open, whether the offered vendor list is fixed and who can approve substitutions. A press report cannot establish that SPPC accepts fresh developer bids.

What can be established as of publication

SPPC launched qualification in April 2026. Statements were initially due on 5 May, and 27 applicants qualified in July. The 12 November bid date comes from MEED's 9 October report citing an unnamed source. A public SPPC deadline amendment, later deadline or Group 2 award was not located as of 24 November. Current bid status and clarification rights should come from the registered participant's portal.

Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026 / pv magazine · initial qualification deadline · 24 Apr 2026 / SaudiGulf Projects · 27 qualified for Group 2 · 1 Jul 2026 / MEED · reported extension of Group 2 bids · 9 Oct 2026 / Principal Buyer · e-procurement portal FAQ · accessed 24 Nov 2026

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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Group 2 adds two sites to the first tender’s four-site design

Contract feature	Group 1	Group 2
Sites and power	4 sites × 500 MW = 2,000 MW	6 sites × 500 MW = 3,000 MW
Duration and energy	4 hours; 8,000 MWh combined	4 hours; 12,000 MWh combined
Publication status	Four storage services agreements signed on 20 August 2026.	Qualification launched in April. Statements initially due 5 May. In July, 27 applicants qualified. MEED reported the bid extension in October.
Location	Haden and Al Muwayh in Makkah, Al Kahafa in Hail, Al Khushaybi in Qassim.	Samha in Qassim, Al-Leeth, Khulis and Ashyrah in Makkah, Al-Henakiyah in Madinah, and Sadawi in Eastern Province.
Contracting record	ACWA consortium: first three. Separate ENGIE consortium: Al Khushaybi.	Awardees and executed agreement terms: not disclosed in sources reviewed.

Use the first group as a reference for scope

ACWA identifies a 15-year term on its three awards. Group 2’s published qualification announcement gives site ratings and duration. Obtain the current storage services agreement before transferring a term or payment mechanism from Group 1.

Principal Buyer · four first-group agreements, Saudi government release · 20 Aug 2026 / Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026 / pv magazine · initial qualification deadline · 24 Apr 2026 / SaudiGulf Projects · 27 qualified for Group 2 · 1 Jul 2026 / ACWA · three storage services agreements · 20 Aug 2026 / ACWA · third-quarter earnings release · 5 Nov 2026

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OCTOBER MILESTONES

The Group 2 extension and AMAALA construction concern different buyers

Date / event	What the record supports	Relevance to the bidder
20 Aug · SPPC	Four Group 1 storage agreements signed. ACWA's three sites account for 6 GWh.	Use executed precedent to identify developers and counterparties.
11 Sept · Gotion	Gotion reported 6 GWh on 11 September. Its 28 September statement names Al Muwayh, Haden and Al Kahafa, each at 500 MW / 2 GWh.	Ask the integrator which supply, installation and service responsibilities it retains.
9 Oct · MEED	MEED cited an unnamed source for the extension to 12 November. A public SPPC addendum was not located.	Use the bidder portal for a binding date.
21 Oct · Masdar presentation	AMAALA appears under construction in the presentation's year-end 2025 project table. Financial close had been announced in 2024.	Separate off-grid multi-utilities concession; the presentation date is not the date construction started.

AMAALA has a different operating obligation

Masdar identifies a 250 MW solar park and 700 MWh of storage within a multi-utility system. Subtracting that capacity from SPPC's Group 2 tender would mix a tourism concession with a grid-storage procurement.

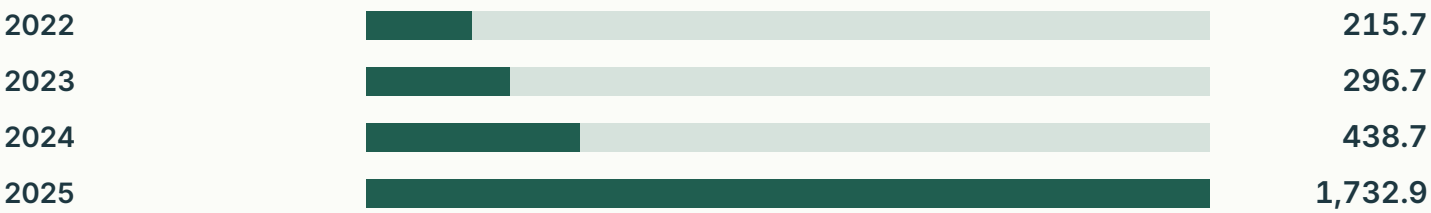
Principal Buyer · four first-group agreements, Saudi government release · 20 Aug 2026 / Gotion · Saudi integrated storage order · 11 Sept 2026 / Gotion · named Saudi storage awards · 28 Sept 2026 / MEED · reported extension of Group 2 bids · 9 Oct 2026 / Masdar · investor presentation, green-bond allocation, p. 22 · 21 Oct 2026 (year-end 2025 project table) / Masdar · AMAALA financial close and project scope · 31 Oct 2024

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TRADE / SAUDI ARABIA AS REPORTER

Lithium-ion imports rose to US$1.73bn in 2025

HS 850760 · gross imports from the world, current US$ million · calendar years



Source: UN Comtrade

UN Comtrade · 2022 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026 / UN Comtrade · 2023 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026 / UN Comtrade · 2024 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026 / UN Comtrade · 2025 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026

Year	World, US$m	China, US$m	China share
2022	215.7	206.1	95.6%
2023	296.7	284.9	96.0%
2024	438.7	426.0	97.1%
2025	1,732.9	1,710.2	98.7%

Commodity scope matters

The six-digit heading covers lithium-ion accumulators across uses. The trade value includes batteries outside grid storage. It cannot allocate import value or installed MWh to a tender, system integrator or cell factory. Annual values and shares are calculated before rounding.

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SUPPLY / BATTERIES AND CONTAINERS

China dominates the import mix; the system contract identifies the supplier



Source: UN Comtrade

UN Comtrade · 2022 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026 / UN Comtrade · 2023 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026 / UN Comtrade · 2024 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026 / UN Comtrade · 2025 Saudi lithium-ion imports · retrieved 24 Nov 2026

Documented counterparty	Reported supply	Remaining sourcing question
Gotion	Gotion names Al Muwayh, Haden and Al Kahafa in its 28 September statement. Each is 500 MW / 2 GWh. GOT · 28 Sept 2026	The cell factory and enclosure maker are not disclosed.
HiTHIUM / alfanar	Separate Tabuk and Hail systems use HiTHIUM cells and containerised equipment. Alfanar leads construction. HI · 26 Aug 2025 (release dateline 27 Aug)	Which local balance-of-plant and service packages remain with the integrator?
Group 2 OEMs	Awarded cell, container and PCS suppliers: not disclosed. G2 · 22 Apr 2026	Require named vendors and factories, test records, warranties and approved alternatives.

Share = reported imports from China ÷ imports from World, same Saudi reporter, year, flow and HS. A partner-country customs record does not identify an individual cell or container maker.

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DURATION / ACCEPTANCE BASIS

A 500 MW plant must sustain output for four hours to deliver 2,000 MWh

At the same power	Illustrative two-hour design	Group 2 four-hour specification
Discharge rating	500 MW	500 MW
Energy using power × time	500 × 2 = 1,000 MWh	500 × 4 = 2,000 MWh
Change in energy requirement	Baseline for comparison	1,000 MWh more per site

Specify the meter and operating conditions

The tender fixes the site rating and duration. The bidder should state the contractual metering point, ambient conditions, initial state of charge, usable energy window and auxiliary consumption. A DC nameplate cannot establish sustained AC delivery at the meter.

Price the warranty over time

Request the degradation curve, permitted cycles and dispatch restrictions. Agree who funds augmentation, when additional capacity will be installed, and how the plant is retested. Contracted power can stay the same while the energy available after several years falls.

BID COMPARISON

Compare bids on guaranteed usable MWh at the required MW, temperature and contract year. State any augmentation cost alongside the initial price.

Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026

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GRID CONNECTION AND LOCAL CONTENT

Assign each grid test and local-content obligation to an accountable supplier

Work package	Obtain before contract close	Acceptance record
Connection design	Applicable Saudi Grid Code, connection offer, operating modes and project-specific settings.	Approved single-line diagram and study assumptions at the connection point.
Dynamic performance	Validated inverter models, controller settings, reactive capability and ride-through response.	Grid studies, witnessed tests, model revisions and owner sign-off.
Dispatch and metering	SCADA interfaces, metering accuracy, time synchronisation, availability definition and outage reporting.	End-to-end dispatch and metered-energy test.
Local-content obligations	Applicable tender schedule, current mandatory list, exemptions and audit forms.	Product origin, supplier records, manufacturing scope and evidence required by the prime.

Confirm site-specific conditions

The Saudi Grid Code provides the framework. Numerical setpoints, local-content targets and penalties for a Group 2 site are not disclosed in the public qualification release. Use the signed connection terms and current tender documents for binding values.

SERA · Saudi Arabian Grid Code, connection, operation and data provisions · accessed 24 Nov 2026 / Ministry of Finance · local-content preference regulation · accessed 24 Nov 2026 / LCGPA · local content percentage certificate · accessed 24 Nov 2026 / Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026

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BID CHECKLIST / COMMERCIAL REVIEW

Six checks determine whether the supplier can stand behind its bid

1 Confirm authority and status

Obtain the latest addendum, bid receipt or subcontract enquiry. Record the authorised buyer and any restrictions on changing vendors.

2 Freeze the performance boundary

Specify AC power and usable energy at the contractual meter. Align guarantees for ambient temperature, auxiliaries and degradation.

3 Secure the main equipment

Name the cell, container, PCS and controls suppliers. Secure warranty pass-through, safety documents and manufacturing slots.

4 Agree the test plan

Assign grid studies, protection, commissioning, energy testing and dispatch milestones. Obtain the grid operator’s required models.

5 Price lifecycle obligations

Include spares, field service, augmentation, insurance and disposal. State exclusions and align supplier liability with the storage agreement.

6 Validate local delivery

Check each regulated item and tender-specific obligation. Confirm Saudi installation capacity, emergency response and supporting documents.

Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026 / Principal Buyer · e-procurement portal FAQ · accessed 24 Nov 2026 / SERA · Saudi Arabian Grid Code, connection, operation and data provisions · accessed 24 Nov 2026 / Ministry of Finance · local-content preference regulation · accessed 24 Nov 2026

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COMMERCIAL DECISION

Protect the submitted offer while the purchaser controls changes

A developer that has already submitted

Check which commitments may be clarified and which may be changed only with written consent. Bring OEM offer validity, performance security and commissioning availability into line with the consortium's current obligations.

A Saudi subcontractor seeking an entry point

Offer a defined lot such as medium-voltage installation, control integration, civil works, spares or battery-system field service. Ask the prime who approves the vendor, what design information is frozen and what proof of local manufacture or service capacity is required.

What would change the conclusion

A dated SPPC amendment, award notice or signed purchase enquiry changes the action and timing. A public report of a new deadline, by itself, does not establish the registered bidder's rights.

DECISION

Use the participant portal to settle procedural status. Use the project's guaranteed AC delivery, acceptance test and lifecycle commitments to settle price.

Principal Buyer · e-procurement portal FAQ · accessed 24 Nov 2026 / Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency · 22 Apr 2026 / MEED · reported extension of Group 2 bids · 9 Oct 2026 / SERA · Saudi Arabian Grid Code, connection, operation and data provisions · accessed 24 Nov 2026

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SOURCES AND DEFINITIONS

Source documents and calculation notes

SPPC defines the ratings and procurement stage. The October extension is press-reported. Trade covers the full lithium-ion heading. The two-hour case is illustrative. The Masdar presentation dates the disclosure rather than the construction start.

G2 Principal Buyer · Group 2 qualification, via Saudi Press Agency
22 Apr 2026

G1 Principal Buyer · four first-group agreements, Saudi government release
20 Aug 2026

SSA ACWA · three storage services agreements
20 Aug 2026

Q3 ACWA · third-quarter earnings release
5 Nov 2026

MEED MEED · reported extension of Group 2 bids
9 Oct 2026

PORT Principal Buyer · e-procurement portal FAQ
accessed 24 Nov 2026

SOQ pv magazine · initial qualification deadline
24 Apr 2026

JUL SaudiGulf Projects · 27 qualified for Group 2
1 Jul 2026

GO Gotion · Saudi integrated storage order
11 Sept 2026

GOT Gotion · named Saudi storage awards
28 Sept 2026

HI HiTHIUM · Tabuk and Hail systems with alfanar
26 Aug 2025 (release dateline 27 Aug)

MD Masdar · investor presentation, green-bond allocation, p. 22
21 Oct 2026 (year-end 2025 project table)

AMA Masdar · AMAALA financial close and project scope
31 Oct 2024

CODE SERA · Saudi Arabian Grid Code, connection, operation and data provisions
accessed 24 Nov 2026

LC Ministry of Finance · local-content preference regulation
accessed 24 Nov 2026

CERT LCGPA · local content percentage certificate
accessed 24 Nov 2026

2022 UN Comtrade · 2022 Saudi lithium-ion imports
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2024 UN Comtrade · 2024 Saudi lithium-ion imports
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2025 UN Comtrade · 2025 Saudi lithium-ion imports
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