

## A-Core Container

# The Vatican's largest energy storage power station



## Overview

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The power station, with a 300MW system, is claimed to be the largest compressed air energy storage power station in the world, with highest efficiency and lowest unit cost as well. Is Vatican City powered by solar?

This is not just about rooftop panels; it's about how science, sustainability, and faith can coexist and set the pace for the rest of the world to follow. Vatican City is powered by solar. On May 29, 2025, the Vatican City officially transitioned to solar power, marking a significant shift in the European energy landscape.

Why does the Vatican have a solar system?

The Vatican's solar shift is a culmination of a political and spiritual mission years in the making. In 2024, the late Pope Francis issued an apostolic letter ordering the construction of an agrivoltaic solar plant to supply the Vatican with energy from Santa Maria di Galeria. On the same site, the new solar infrastructure now stands.

How will the Vatican's new energy system work?

According to the Vatican's press office, the installation will apply the most advanced solutions currently available, balancing clean energy generation with the preservation of agricultural use, the region's hydrogeological stability, and the protection of its cultural and archaeological heritage (ZENIT News / Rome, 08.01.2025).-

Why did Acea install a solar energy system in Vatican City?

This project was carried out by ACEA, an Italian utility company, which installed systems to meet all of the Vatican's energy demands. What makes this significant is not the size, but that Vatican City is only 0.49km<sup>2</sup>, and there was no loud campaign, no press tour, just action set in stone and implemented.

Will a Vatican Radio station be installed in 2025?

The future installation would be projected to “ensure, not only the power supply of the radio station existing there, but also the complete energy support of Vatican City State,” he wrote. Fast forward to 2025, and the project is completed.

Why did the Holy See build an agrivoltaic system in Santa Maria di Galeria?

On July 31, at the historic Palazzo Borromeo, the Holy See and the Italian Republic signed a landmark agreement to build an agrivoltaic system in Santa Maria di Galeria. More than a technical feat, the initiative is a spiritual and diplomatic gesture—anchored in the conviction that caring for creation is a moral imperative.

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