

Solar

# Ecopetrol cuts ribbon at 56.1-MW solar farm in Colombia

Colombian majority state-owned petroleum company [Ecopetrol SA \(NYSE:EC\)](#) has inaugurated a 56.12-MW solar farm in the Santander department, north-central Colombia.

The company invested USD 49.64 million (EUR 45.4m of its own money) into the project, which was built as a self-consumption scheme, the Colombian government said in a press release on Monday.



La Cira Infantas solar farm in Barrancabermeja, Colombia. Image: Ecopetrol

La Cira Infantas solar farm in Barrancabermeja, Colombia. Image: Ecopetrol, via Presidencia de la República de Colombia.

The solar farm, called La Cira Infantas, is equipped with 84,900 solar panels covering an area of 53 hectares (131 acres) in the municipality of Barrancabermeja. It is expected to generate up to 76.3 GWh per year or enough to power 40,500 households in Colombia.

La Cira Infantas is a self-supply power project, one of several that [Ecopetrol](#) financed or otherwise supported to decarbonise its oilfields, refineries and other operations. The latest one will enable the company to cover 14% of the electricity demand of its La Cira Infantas oilfield. By partially replacing grid electricity, [Ecopetrol](#) will avoid the emission of 12,500 tonnes of CO2, according to its calculations.

[Ecopetrol](#) CEO Ricardo Roa Barragan said: “We have the [Castilla](#), [San Fernando](#) and [Brisas](#) solar farms. By the end of 2024, in addition to the [Solar Farm at the Cartagena Refinery](#) in the department of Bolivar, we will have three smaller solar farms in operation in the transport segment. In this way, we are consolidating our position as a leader in the transition in Latin America”.

AES Colombia, part of US electric utility group AES Corp ([NYSE:AES](#)), was behind the Castilla, San Fernando and Brisas projects. The company is supplying the electricity from these plants to [Ecopetrol](#) under power purchase agreements (PPAs).

[Ecopetrol](#) expects to have between 700 MW and 800 MW of renewables energy projects in development, construction and operation by the end of 2024.

(USD 1.0 = EUR 0.914)

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Sladjana has significant experience as a Spain-focused business news reporter and is now diving deeper into the global renewable energy industry. She is the person to seek if you need information about Latin American renewables and the Spanish market.

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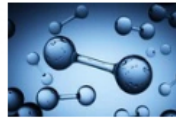
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