TECHNO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FOR EMPLOYING OF ON-SITE HYDROGEN PRODUCTION & STORAGE SYSTEMS WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SITES IN SRI LANKA

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DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this dissertation does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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ABSTRACT

Energy can be termed as the life blood of the telecommunication industry even its technologies had evolved very rapidly. The concern is focused not only on the way of the energy is supplied, but also on the continuity of the supply and the cost of the same are critical concerns in the industry.

With the ever-increasing price of the fossil fuel and the commercial electricity supply which depends on the fossil fuel, telecommunication industry had begun the seeking of options with renewable energy. The inherent limitations of renewable energy were identified and introduced the hydrogen storage concept in to the renewable energy conversion system to overcome them and maintain an un-interruptible power supply.

Under this research, the determination of the optimum composition of the system components is done which yields the best advantage of the proposed technological concept. Since the cost is a major concern when it comes to the industry, a mathematical model had been developed to perform the techno-economic analysis of the viability of deploying hydrogen storage with renewable energy system to power a given base station site under Sri Lankan context. In addition, the sensitivity analysis was performed taking the price of inputs as variables.

Tool HOMER had been used to validate the results of the developed mathematical model.

The developed model can be used to check whether the telecommunication operator can omit the capital expenditure of Diesel generator and Battery bank when investing on the power system for a particular base station site.

Key words: Techno-economic analysis, Hydrogen Storage, Optimum Cost.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

D	ECLA	ARATION	i
A	BSTR	ACT	ii
A	CKNO	OWLEDGEMENT	iii
L	(ST O	F ABBREVIATIONS	ix
1	IN	NTRODUCTION	1
	1.1	Background	1
	1.2	Problem statement / justification	2
	1.3	Motivation	2
	1.4	Objectives of the study	2
	1.5	Methodology	2
	1.6	Contributions	4
2	LI	ITERATURE REVIEW	5
	2.1	General Information	7
3	Ga	athering of data	9
	3.1	From the telecommunication network	9
	3.2	Gathering of data – Technical development	9
	3.2	2.1 Net metering	9
	3.2	2.2 Battery banks	9
	3.2	2.3 Hydrogen storage	10
4	Aı	nalysis of gathered data	12
	4.1	Categorization of site – On power demand	12
	4.2	Categorization of site – On available land area	13
5 Modeling of the system		16	
		Overview of HOMER	16

	5.2	Dev	velopment of mathematical model
	;	5.2.1	Solar PV panels
	;	5.2.2	Fuel cell
	;	5.2.3	Hydrogen storage tank
	;	5.2.4	Converter21
	:	5.2.5	Electrolizer22
		5.2.6	Diesel generator23
6	(Genera	ation of test cases
	6.1	Geo	ographical Location
		6.1.1	Amunakole - Base station site
		6.1.2	Nelumkulama - Base station site
		6.1.3	Gawaragiriya East - Base station site
	6.2	Pov	ver load of the site
7	,	Testin	g of technical viability against the test cases
	7.1	Tes	st case 1
		7.1.1	Discussion on result – Test case 1
	7.2	Tes	at case 2
	,	7.2.1	Discussion on result – Test case 2
	7.3	Tes	at case 3
	,	7.3.1	Discussion on result – Test case 3
	7.4	Tes	at case 4
	,	7.4.1	Discussion on result – Test case 4
8	,	Testin	g the viability using Developed mathematical model
9		Incorp	orate the mathematical model for decision making
10) ;	Sensiti	ivity analysis
11		Concl	usion56

1 つ	Defense	 _
1/	References	 . /

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4-1 Segregation of sites based on power demand	. 13
Figure 4-2 Re-segregation of power demand to accommodate information on area	
availability	. 14
Figure 4-3 Distribution of Available Area in Sites with Demand Less than 2 kW	. 14
Figure 4-4 Distribution of Available Area in Sites with Demand between 2 kW - 4kW	. 15
Figure 4-5 Distribution of Available Area in Sites with Demand over 4 kW	. 15
Figure 5-1 System components Modeled in HOMER tool	. 17
Figure 5-2 Pattern of solar radiation over the year – As an input to HOMER tool	. 18
Figure 5-3 Input of load data	. 18
Figure 5-4 Mathematical Equations - Solar PV	. 20
Figure 5-5 Mathematical Equations – Fuel Cell	. 21
Figure 5-6 Mathematical Equations – Hydrogen storage	. 21
Figure 5-7 Mathematical Equations – Converter	. 22
Figure 5-8 Mathematical Equations – Electrolizer	. 23
Figure 5-9 Mathematical Equations – Diesel Generator	. 24
Figure 6-1 Sample system with a Hydrogen storage	. 25
Figure 6-2 Selected base station site locations	. 26
Figure 6-3 Geographical location of Amunakole site	. 26
Figure 6-4 Annual distribution of solar radiation - Amunakole	. 27
Figure 6-5 Geographical location of Nelumkulama site	. 28
Figure 6-6 Annual distribution of solar radiation – Nelumkulama	. 28
Figure 6-7 Geographical location of Gawaragiriya East site	. 29
Figure 6-8Annual distribution of solar radiation – Gawaragiriya East	. 30
Figure 7-1 Table of test cases	. 32
Figure 7-2 Optimum System Architecture - Test case 1	. 33
Figure 7-3 Summary of electricity generation - Test case 1	. 33
Figure 7-4 Operational summary of Diesel Generator - Test case 1	. 34
Figure 7-5 Operational summary of Fuel Cell - Test case 1	. 34
Figure 7-6 Next best solution – Test case 1	. 35
Figure 7-7 Optimum System Architecture - Test case 2	. 36
Figure 7-8 Operational summary of Diesel Generator - Test case 2	. 36
Figure 7-9 Operational summary of Fuel Cell - Test case 2	. 36

Figure 7-10 Next best solution – Test case 2	. 38
Figure 7-11 Optimum System Architecture - Test case 3	. 38
Figure 7-12 Operational summary of Diesel Generator - Test case 3	. 39
Figure 7-13 Optimum System Architecture - Test case 4	. 40
Figure 7-14Operational summary of Diesel Generator - Test case 4	. 40
Figure 7-15 Operational summary of Fuel Cell - Test case 4	. 40
Figure 7-16 Next best solution – Test case 4	. 41
Figure 8-1 GUI of the mathematical model to test the viability	. 42
Figure 8-2 Comparison of the results with HOMER – Test case 1	. 43
Figure 8-3 Comparison of the results with HOMER – Test case 2	. 44
Figure 8-4 Comparison of the results with HOMER – Test case 3	. 45
Figure 8-5 Comparison of the results with HOMER – Test case 4	. 46
Figure 8-6 Comparison of the results with HOMER – Test case 5	. 47
Figure 8-7 Comparison of the results with HOMER – Test case 9	. 48
Figure 8-8 Comparison of results - Test case 2	. 49
Figure 9-1 Flow chart - Decision making algorithm	. 51
Figure 9-2 Techno-economic output for traditional configuration - Test case 9	. 52
Figure 9-3 Techno-economic output for proposed concept - Test case 9	. 53
Figure 9-4 Comparison of decisive parameters	. 53
Figure 10-1 Sensitivity - Test case 9 - 1\$. 55
Figure 10-2 Sensitivity - Test case 9 - 05	55

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

2G Second Generation Cellular Technology

AC Alternating current

CAPEX Capital Expenditure

DAP Dialog Axiata PLC

DC Direct Current

GUI User Interface

HOMER Hybrid Optimization Model for Multiple Energy Resources

kVA Kilo Volt Ampere

kW kilo Watt

MS Micro Soft

OPEX Operational Expenditure

PLC Public Limited Company

PV Photo Voltaic

W Watt