

NKOSITHANDILEB SOLAR

Grid demand for energy storage



Overview

Why do we need a grid-scale energy-storage system?

Under some conditions, excess renewable energy is produced and, without storage, is curtailed 2, 3; under others, demand is greater than generation from renewables. Grid-scale energy-storage (GSES) systems are therefore needed to store excess renewable energy to be released on demand, when power generation is insufficient 4.

Should energy storage be removed from energy grid connection?

For energy storage, the new Chinese policy emphasized the need to remove energy storage as a prerequisite for renewable energy project grid connection, a requirement that has been a major driver for battery build. Nonetheless, BNEF still expects strong demand for batteries, as the policy doesn't explicitly require mandates to stop.

Are battery energy-storage technologies necessary for grid-scale energy storage?

The rise in renewable energy utilization is increasing demand for battery energy-storage technologies (BESTs). BESTs based on lithium-ion batteries are being developed and deployed. However, this technology alone does not meet all the requirements for grid-scale energy storage.

Should governments consider energy storage?

In the electricity sector, governments should consider energy storage, alongside other flexibility options such as demand response, power plant retrofits, or smart grids, as part of their long-term strategic plans, aligned with wind and solar PV capacity as well as grid capacity expansion plans.

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