

# Energy storage technology scale

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.

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

Under some conditions, excess renewable energy is produced and, without storage, is curtailed<sup>2,3</sup>; 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<sup>4</sup>.

What types of battery technologies are being developed for grid-scale energy storage?

In this Review, we describe BESTs being developed for grid-scale energy storage, including high-energy, aqueous, redox flow, high-temperature and gas batteries. Battery technologies support various power system services, including providing grid support services and preventing curtailment.

Which storage technology is most scalable?

Batteries are the most scalable type of grid-scale storage and the market has seen strong growth in recent years. Other storage technologies include compressed air and gravity storage, but they play a comparatively small role in current power systems.

What are energy storage systems?

Energy-storage systems designed to store and release energy over extended periods, typically more than ten hours, to balance supply and demand in power systems. Reduction of energy demand during peak times; battery energy-storage systems can be used to provide energy during peak demand periods.

What is large-scale energy storage?

Large-scale energy storage enables the storage of vast amounts of energy produced at one time and its release at another. This technology is critical for balancing supply and demand in renewable energy systems, such as wind and solar, which are inherently intermittent.

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