

# Which is better energy storage materials or smart mining

Can a battery energy storage system be used in a mine?

Although many mines are located in sites with good wind or solar resources, they have been limited in how much renewable energy they can use due to the intermittency of the wind and sun. Mining groups are increasingly addressing this by adding battery energy storage systems (BESS) to renewable energy facilities.

Can battery storage Make Mine energy supplies more resilient and sustainable?

One of the first examples of how battery storage can help make mine energy supplies more resilient and sustainable is Gold Fields' Agnew Gold Mine, located in a remote part of Western Australia, 1,000km north-east of Perth.

Why is energy storage a challenge in the mining industry?

The challenge, however, is that the mining industry requires an immense amount of energy storage capacity and for much longer time periods than much of the current battery technology can provide. "We are hoping that as the technology grows, [the storage capacity and duration] will increase."

Is mining a sustainable future?

In making this argument, not only has the industry framed itself as a leading proponent of sustainability-through-decarbonisation, but it has also positioned itself as critical in realising a sustainable, clean energy future, negating criticisms of mining as unsustainable.

Can energy storage be a source of untapped financial value for mining companies?

In the first two modalities of decarbonisation, energy storage becomes a source of untapped financial value for mining companies. As demand for renewable energy generation and storage grows, the demand for products that only mining companies can produce also grows, from lithium and cobalt and manganese to copper and aluminium.

How much power does a mine use?

Power consumption is one of the biggest contributors to the sector's emissions, says mining consultant Andy Birtles, a fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining. "There is some incredible energy usage in mines, often in excess of 10MW."



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