

# Storage system for solar energy United States

Is energy storage a viable option for utility-scale solar energy systems?

Energy storage has become an increasingly common component of utility-scale solar energy systems in the United States. Much of NREL's analysis for this market segment focuses on the grid impacts of solar-plus-storage systems, though costs and benefits are also frequently considered.

What is solar-plus-storage?

For solar-plus-storage--the pairing of solar photovoltaic (PV) and energy storage technologies--NREL researchers study and quantify the unique economic and grid benefits reaped by distributed and utility-scale systems. Much of NREL's current energy storage research is informing solar-plus-storage analysis.

Why is solar storage important?

Storage helps solar contribute to the electricity supply even when the sun isn't shining. It can also help smooth out variations in how solar energy flows on the grid. These variations are attributable to changes in the amount of sunlight that shines onto photovoltaic (PV) panels or concentrating solar-thermal power (CSP) systems.

What is an energy storage system?

An energy storage system (ESS) for electricity generation uses electricity (or some other energy source, such as solar-thermal energy) to charge an energy storage system or device, which is discharged to supply (generate) electricity when needed at desired levels and quality. ESSs provide a variety of services to support electric power grids.

What is energy storage & how does it work?

Sometimes energy storage is co-located with, or placed next to, a solar energy system, and sometimes the storage system stands alone, but in either configuration, it can help more effectively integrate solar into the energy landscape. What Is Energy Storage?

How many energy storage systems are there in the US?

According to GTM Research's "U.S. Energy Storage Monitor 2017 Year in Review," more than 5,500 energy storage systems are installed in the U.S., in the residential and commercial sectors with over 95% connected to PV in the residential sector at the end of 2017, which amounts to about 4,700 systems.

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Customer resilience value: Indicative analyses of residential solar+storage backup power capabilities, evaluated in terms of the percentage of daily load served 3 Provides a data-driven overview and analysis of market trends for grid-connected residential and non-residential behind-the-meter solar+storage

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The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) aims to accelerate the

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advancement and deployment of solar technology in support of an equitable transition to a decarbonized economy no later than 2050, starting with a decarbonized power sector by 2035.

Simply put, a solar-plus-storage system is a battery system that is charged by a connected solar system, such as a photovoltaic (PV) one. In an effort to track this trend, researchers at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) created a first-of-its-kind benchmark of U.S. utility-scale solar-plus-storage systems .

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