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The value of energy storage backup power



Overview

Energy storage is an enabling technology, which – when paired with energy generated using renewable resources – can save consumers money, improve reliability and resilience, integrate generation sources, and help reduce environmental impacts. Does energy storage provide backup power?

Energy storage can provide backup power during disruptions. The same concept that applies to backup power for an individual device (e.g., a smoke alarm that plugs into a home but also has battery backup), can be scaled up to an entire building or even the grid at large.

What is a battery energy storage system (BESS)?

The battery energy storage system (BESS) combines backup and load regulation functions, making it a potential alternative to the diesel generator (DG) as the backup power source for data centers.

Why do we need energy storage systems?

As a consequence, the electrical grid sees much higher power variability than in the past, challenging its frequency and voltage regulation. Energy storage systems will be fundamental for ensuring the energy supply and the voltage power quality to customers.

Do energy storage systems ensure a safe and stable energy supply?

As a consequence, to guarantee a safe and stable energy supply, faster and larger energy availability in the system is needed. This survey paper aims at providing an overview of the role of energy storage systems (ESS) to ensure the energy supply in future energy grids.

What are energy storage systems?

Energy storage systems (ESSs) deployed at different levels of the electrical grid serve different functions. For example, a BESS located at a distribution substation may offer both ancillary-based and distribution-based benefits.

Does energy storage deliver value?

In a case study of a system with load and renewable resource characteristics from the U.S. state of Texas, we find that energy storage delivers value by increasing the cost-effective penetration of renewable energy, reducing total investments in nuclear power and gas-fired peaking units, and improving the utilization of all installed capacity.

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