Bess solar system

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Lightsource bp is focused on delivering reliable, flexible solutions that meet energy needs around the clock. Energy storage is critical to advancing our resilient energy future.

Simply put, utility-scale battery storage systems work by storing energy in rechargeable batteries and releasing it into the grid at a later time to deliver electricity or other grid services. Without energy storage, electricity must be produced and consumed at exactly the same time. Energy storage systems allow electricity to be stored--and then discharged--at the most strategic and vital times, and locations.

Co-located energy storage systems are installed alongside renewable generation sources such as solar farms. Co-locating solar and storage improves project efficiency and can often reduce total expenses by sharing balance of system costs across assets. Co-located energy storage systems can be either DC or AC coupled.

BESS can also store energy from renewable as well as non-renewable sources. Standalone batteries are charged from the electric grid, and are not physically co-located with a solar farm. These independent systems respond to overall grid conditions to provide critical grid level or distribution level services.

The battery modules are the heart of the system, storing energy and dispatching it when needed. A battery is made up of lithium cells, wired together to create a module. The modules are then stacked and combined to form a battery rack.

Battery racks are installed within a UL-rated, noncombustible enclosure designed to withstand seismic activity, heavy weather, and high-winds. Enclosures come in different shapes and sizes but are typically smaller than a 40 foot shipping container. Enclosures are typically equipped with a liquid cooled system that uses a combination of chiller and HVAC to keep batteries within certain temperature ranges. If an elevated temperature is reached, the system will automatically be shut down.

Battery systems store and deliver electricity as direct current (DC), while our electric grid and most loads operate on alternating current (AC). The PCS or bi-directional inverter is used to convert DC to AC to discharge batteries and also AC to DC power to charge the batteries.

The EMS is responsible for controlling and scheduling BESS activity as well as optimizing performance. It will signal the PCS to charge or discharge the battery.

SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) is a control system that enables monitoring of the battery energy storage system. SCADA focuses on real-time monitoring, control, and data acquisition of the BESS itself, while EMS takes a broader view, optimizing the operation of the entire power system, including the BESS, to ensure efficient and reliable energy management. At Lightsource bp, we ensure the SCADA system

is up and running, 24/7, with backup power integrated as an additional safety measure.

Battery storage creates a smarter, more flexible, and more reliable grid. BESS also plays a pivotal role in the integration of renewable energy sources, such as solar, by mitigating intermittency issues. Storing excess energy during peak production periods ensures a consistent power supply during periods of low renewable generation, enhancing grid resilience and promoting higher renewable energy penetration.

The ability of utility-scale batteries to nimbly draw energy from the grid during certain periods and discharge it to the grid at other periods creates opportunities for electricity dispatch optimization strategies based on system or economic conditions.

Utility-scale storage refers to technologies connected to the power grid that can store energy and then supply it back to the grid at a more advantageous time - for example, at night, when no solar power is available, or during a weather event that disrupts electricity generation. Batteries are playing a growing role as they can be installed anywhere in a wide range of capacities.

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