

Energy storage for demand response athens

A key challenge in the journey transition to a low carbon economy is to deliver renewable energy production in a way that meets the power adequacy requirements of tomorrow's decarbonized world.

Renewable energy plants are highly dependent on the weather, making them inconsistent and renewable energy is therefore not a stable source of power. Storage units are able to 'stockpile' excess renewable energy production and help stabilize the problem – surplus energy can then be utilized whenever there is a power shortage.

For the stability of the energy network and the security of electricity supply, it is important that demand and supply are consistently well balanced. Here the storage of electricity plays a vital role allowing excess electricity to be stored, when there is a surplus of production over consumption: conversely, when demand is greater than production, the electricity thus stored can be used to meet that demand.

The regulatory regime governing electricity storage will also play an important role in promoting progress in the field of electricity storage. The new legal regime is based on Directive 2019/944/EU and the national framework that will be adopted on that basis.

It is anticipated that the new national framework that will govern electricity storage is expected to be in place in the near future and it has been suggested that the scope of this framework will cover issues that extend to and include the following:

The definition needs to be technology neutral; this is essential for the development and implementation of various new technologies². In particular, Recital (42) of Directive 2019/944/EU emphasizes that consumers should be able to consume, store and sell self-generated electricity to the market and to participate in all electricity markets by providing flexibility to the system, for instance through energy storage, such as storage using electric vehicles, through demand response or through energy efficiency schemes.

Accordingly, Directive 2019/944/EU introduces the concept of an active customer who will likely have an important role in relation to electricity storage. The new framework should envisage that active customers that own energy storage facilities have the right to be connected to the grid connection within a reasonable time after requesting to be connected provided that all necessary conditions (such as balancing responsibility and adequate metering) are fulfilled, and they should not be subject to disproportionate licensing or fee requirements.

The development of storage in Greece has only just begun: this year has been the big "kick-start" and there is now a common understanding of the needs and requirements and the steps to be taken to ensure an adequate

identification and prioritization of all necessary actions.

The next steps demand a stable regulatory framework, the rationalization of a renewable energy project licensing process, an increase of the system's capacity to receive viable renewable energy projects, and the utilization of all financial instruments and support schemes with effective project selection and aid procedures based on the needs of the system and of the investments.

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