

Pumped hydro storage dakar

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Enabling the energy transitionCentralized synchronous plants will be less dominant in the future energy mix and with the massive penetration of intermittent renewables such as wind and solar and their impact on the grid reliability is huge. Supply of energy is variable and services to maintain voltage or frequency of the grid cannot be met by inverter-based resources.

Pumped hydro storage plants store energy using a system of two interconnected reservoirs with one at a higher elevation than the other. Water is pumped to the upper reservoir in times of surplus energy and, in times of excess demand, water from the upper reservoir is released, generating electricity as the water passes through reversible Francis turbines on its way to the lower reservoir. The process is then repeated with an overall cycle efficiency of about 80%.

With fixed speed pumped storage plants, power regulation is possible while the plant is generating electricity but with the state-of-the-art variable speed technology, power regulation in specific ranges is possible while generating and while pumping, providing additional flexibility to support the grid stability.

Large-scale: This is the attribute that best positions pumped hydro storage which is especially suited for long discharge durations for daily or even weekly energy storage applications.

Reactivity: the growing share of intermittent sources reduces the inertia of the grid, which increases its instability. Reactivity, then, is key to avoid incidents, and hydropower production and storage can provide inertia and load balancing services to the grid. The current technologies provide response times that are counted in seconds or even milliseconds in the case of variable speed technology.

Mature technology: for decades, pumped hydro storage has offered a cost-effective way to provide large-scale balancing and grid services, with predictable cost and performance. New hydro storage technologies, such as variable speed, now give plant owners even more flexibility, output, efficiency, reliability and availability.

Renewable and Sustainable: Hydropower uses the force of water that can be pumped uphill and turbined downhill as much as needed. pumped hydro storage plants have a lifetime of more than 40 years for the electromechanical equipment and 100 years for the dam. Closed-loop pumped hydro storage present minimal environmental impact as they are not connected to existing river systems. In addition, they do not need to be located near an existing river and can therefore be located where needed to support the grid.

GE"S TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERIENCE TO HELP YOU OPTIMIZE YOUR PROJECTGE is a world leader in pumped storage plant equipment and supplies in-house capabilities not only for turbines and generators but also the full electrical balance of plant.



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GE Renewable Energy offers integrated solutions for fixed speed pumped storage plants, as well as variable speed doubly or fully fed systems helping to minimize cost, maximize energy output and provide optimal grid support.

Thanks to GE Renewable Energy"s know-how and R& D expertise, our engineers have pushed the boundaries of design with the latest generation of pump-turbines. These solutions combine high performance, high hydraulic stability, and low vibrations.Furthermore, our innovative pump-turbines are not only flexible but also reactive: Less than 70 seconds are needed to switch from idle to full load for units up to 400 MW.

GE Renewable Energy continues innovating with variable speed solutions that provide an extra-level of flexibility to the grid, delivering a more than 30% pumping power adjustment and a wider operating range.

Find out in this animation how GE Vernova''s Hydro Power Pumped Storage technology works, and how it contributes to a better integration of variable energies on the grid.

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