



WALMER ENERGY

How much does a storage microgrid cost





Overview

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory reports system costs for a 4-hour duration battery energy storage system is approximately \$389/mWh. How much does energy storage cost a microgrid?

In commercial/industrial and utility microgrids, soft costs (43% and 24%, respectively) represent significant portion of the total costs per megawatt. Finally, energy storage contributes significantly to the total cost of commercial and community microgrids, which have percentages of 25% and 15%, respectively, of the total costs per megawatt.

How much does a microgrid cost?

Or as S&C Electric's David Chiesa puts it: "If you've seen one microgrid, you've seen one microgrid." So there is no quick and simple price to give a prospective customer. Sources we've interviewed cite project proposals as low as \$250,000 to as high as \$100 million. Generation typically accounts for most of the cost.

How much new generation is needed for microgrids?

The winners of the Stage 1 competition called for an average of 64% new generation, which is slightly less than the average of 71% new generation for microgrids in the community segment in the NREL cost database.

Is a microgrid more expensive than a small solar array?

True, larger microgrids will likely be more expensive than smaller microgrids — but in gross terms, not necessarily on a per kilowatt basis. In fact, generation for a very small microgrid tends to cost more per kilowatt than a comparable larger version. For example, a 50-kW solar array is more expensive per kilowatt than 1-MW solar array.



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