

# The grid needs energy storage





## Overview

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Why do we need a grid-scale energy-storage system?

Under some conditions, excess renewable energy is produced and, without storage, is curtailed 2, 3; under others, demand is greater than generation from renewables. Grid-scale energy-storage (GSES) systems are therefore needed to store excess renewable energy to be released on demand, when power generation is insufficient 4.

Will energy storage support a fully renewable grid?

Energy storage capacity is expanding rapidly but still falls significantly short of what is needed to support a fully renewable grid. Recent figures reveal that in the US, battery storage has surged from under 2 gigawatts (GW) in 2020 to nearly 30 GW by early 2025 .

How can energy storage improve grid management?

As the electricity demand continues to grow and the integration of renewable energy sources increases, energy storage technologies offer solutions to address the challenges associated with grid management. One of the primary contributions of energy storage to grid management is its ability to balance supply and demand.

Are battery energy-storage technologies necessary for grid-scale energy storage?

The rise in renewable energy utilization is increasing demand for battery energy-storage technologies (BESTs). BESTs based on lithium-ion batteries are being developed and deployed. However, this technology alone does not meet all the requirements for grid-scale energy storage.



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