## SOLAR PRO

### Australia energy storage box

How is energy stored in Australia?

Currently storage of electrical energy in Australia consists of a small number of pumped hydroelectric facilities and grid-scale batteries, and a diversity of battery storage systems at small scale, used mainly for backup. To balance energy use across the Australian economy, heat and fuel (chemical energy) storage are also required.

What types of energy storage are available in Australia?

Compressed air, thermal energy and redox flow batteries are just some of the alternative forms of long duration energy storage available in Australia. These technologies bring remarkable energy carrying capabilities, helping to maintain reliability while minimising the cost of the transition.

Is there a future for energy storage in Australia?

There is more to come. As demand for energy storage grows,new solutions are rapidly emerging. Compressed air, thermal energy and redox flow batteries are just some of the alternative forms of long duration energy storage available in Australia.

How does energy storage work?

Energy storage secures and stabilises energy supply, and services and cross-links the electricity, gas, industrial and transport sectors. It works on and off the grid, in passenger and freight transportation, and in homes as 'behind the meter' batteries and thermal stores or heat pump systems.

Which energy storage options are a good option for the future?

Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (PHES), Compressed Air Energy Storage System (CAES), and green hydrogen (via fuel cells, and fast response hydrogen-fueled gas peaking turbines) will be options for medium to long-term storage. Batteries and SCsare assessed as a prudent option for the immediate net zero targets for 2030-2050.

How can renewable storage technology transform Australia?

Renewable storage technologies have the potential to revolutionise clean and reliable energy access in remote communities, support cost-effective decarbonisation in industry and transform Australia into a green hydrogen export superpower.

As Australia transitions to net zero, renewable energy storage is critical to ensure a secure, sustainable and affordable electricity supply. The report responds to common challenges around decarbonisation and technology readiness, ...

Energy storage is critical to a successful transformation as it provides the vital link between energy production and consumption (See Box 1) and allows for greater penetration of both utility scale variable renewable

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Increasing urgency around energy storage solutions. Operating a reliable low-carbon power system means that energy storage is imperative - and AEMO also makes this clear. It says building the energy storage to manage daily and seasonal variations in solar and wind generation is the most pressing need of the next decade.

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The CSIRO assessment used the Australian Energy Market Operator"s (AEMO) 2022 Integrated System Plan for its analysis of what might be required with the step change and hydrogen superpower scenarios, suggesting the NEM could need between 44 and 96GW/550-950GWh of dispatchable storage by 2050, while Western Australia might need 12-17GW/74-96GWh.

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