

Greece importance of energy storage

Why is Greece focusing on energy storage?

Greece has been actively focusing on energy storage since the emergence of the RES "boom" in 2020. The country recognised the pivotal role of energy storage in the energy transition and emphasised its importance in the first iteration of the country's National Energy and Climate Plan in 2019.

Should Greece invest in energy storage facilities?

Currently there is a growing interest for investments in storage facilities in Greece. Licensed projects mostly consist of Li-ion battery energy storage systems (BESS), either stand-alone or integrated in PVs, as well as PHS facilities.

Why is electricity storage important?

Electricity storage plays an important role in the transition to a low carbon economy and drives energy efficiency while at the same time allowing the integration of more renewable energy sources into the electricity system.

How does storage work on Greece's islands?

The introduction and development of storage on Greece's islands that are not connected to the mainland power system is quite different, as it is currently only possible via hybrid stations (i.e. virtual production stations consisting of renewable energy resources and storage units operating as single distribution entities).

How is storage developing in Greece?

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.

How long should energy storage be in a Greek power system?

Considering the energy arbitrage and flexibility needs of the Greek power system, a mix of short (~2 MWh/MW) and longer (>6 MWh/MW) duration storages has been identified as optimal. In the short run, storage is primarily needed for balancing services and to a smaller degree for limited energy arbitrage.

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The rules involve an alignment with the important EU's objectives and targets set out in the European Green Deal and with other recent regulatory changes in the energy and environmental areas and will cater for the increased importance of climate protection.

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This article highlights key steps recently taken by the Greek State as regards the legal/regulatory framework and appropriate State aid schemes, to kickstart electricity storage activity and allow for an efficient and timely development of facilities.

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