

The difference between energy storage and solar energy storage





Overview

“Storage” refers to technologies that can capture electricity, store it as another form of energy (chemical, thermal, mechanical), and then release it for use when it is needed. Lithium-ion batteries are one such technology.

What is energy storage?

Energy storage is a system that can help more effectively integrate solar into the energy landscape. Sometimes it is co-located with, or placed next to, a solar energy system, and sometimes the storage system stands alone.

What percentage of energy storage systems are paired with solar?

The vast majority of energy storage systems installed at homes and businesses in the US are paired with solar. In fact, according to research from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), through 2019, 70% of all behind-the-meter storage is paired with solar.

Why are solar energy storage systems so popular?

Solar energy storage systems have become popular among homeowners and businesses seeking greater energy independence and solar backup power during grid outages. The federal investment tax credit (ITC) increased to 30% for solar systems and standalone battery storage, further fueling demand for various types of solar energy storage systems.

What are residential solar energy systems paired with battery storage?

Residential solar energy systems paired with battery storage—generally called solar-plus-storage systems—provide power regardless of the weather or the time of day without having to rely on backup power from the grid. Check out some of the benefits. This battery system is paired with a residential rooftop solar array in Arizona.



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