

# **Why do wind and solar energy use energy storage**





## Overview

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How do solar and wind power systems work?

Solar and wind facilities use the energy stored in batteries to reduce power fluctuations and increase reliability to deliver on-demand power. Battery storage systems bank excess energy when demand is low and release it when demand is high, to ensure a steady supply of energy to millions of homes and businesses.

Why do we need energy storage?

Because power systems are balanced at the system level, no dedicated backup with energy storage is needed for any single technology. Storage is most economical when operated to maximise the economic benefit of an entire system. Don't we need storage to reduce curtailment?

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How does energy storage work?

Energy storage creates a buffer in the power system that can absorb any excess energy in periods when renewables produce more than is required. This stored energy is then sent back to the grid when supply is limited.

How is energy stored?

**Mechanical Energy Storage:** Energy is stored through mechanical means, such as compressing air or using flywheels. Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES) and flywheels are examples of this technology. **Hydrogen Storage:** Surplus electricity is used to produce hydrogen through electrolysis.



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