



The IRENA Electricity Storage Valuation Framework

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#IRENAinsights webinar 16 April 2020

Electricity Storage Valuation Framework:

Assessing system value and ensuring project viability

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System flexibility is key to achieving the goals of the energy transition



- Solar and wind power could contribute more than 85% of total electricity demand by 2050
- > Integrating high shares of VRE requires enhancing system flexibility at all parts of the energy system
- Electricity storage together with other flexibility measures (i.e. more flexible demand, flexible generation and smart transmission and distribution networks) could enable integration of VRE at very large shares





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Part 1:

Overview for Policy Makers



The role of electricity storage for VRE integration



- Solar and wind power are variable and have limited predictability, affecting system operations at various time scales: need to increase system flexibility
- Electricity storage can support system operations at all time scales



- Storage co-located with VRE: Direct benefits to VRE
 - Increases firm capacity (participation in capacity markets)
 - Reduces variability and uncertainty (participation in grid services markets)
 - Increases capture price

Stand alone storage: Indirect benefits to VRE by increasing system flexibility

- Reduces operational impacts of VRE
- Defers need for other investments (e.g. peak capacity, T&D capacity)
- Increases efficiency and reduces costs of grid services provision

The Electricity Storage Valuation Framework





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For electricity storage developers

Get familiar with existing business models and collaborate closer with regulators and utilities to highlight system benefits of ES.

For vertically integrated utilities

Update planning tools to include ES and update procurement processes for services required, rather than specific technologies.

For regulators

Eliminate barriers for ES participation in different markets, create new markets and products able to capture the value of ES, make explicit provisions for all sources of flexibility – incl. ES – in IRPs.

For the research community

Support further development of tools and methodologies to perform ES valuation, develop scenarios to study benefits of ES.





Part 2:

Using power system models to assess value and viability



- System Value Analysis

Phase

03





Capacity expansion model

- Compare electricity storage against alternatives
- Main outputs:
 - First estimate of electricity storage needed
 - Estimation of CAPEX benefits of electricity storage

Production cost model

- Simulate the short term operation of electricity storage
- Main outputs:
 - > Optimal capacity of electricity storage
 - Estimation of OPEX benefits of electricity storage

They key is to use a capacity expansion model for a first estimation but use an incremental production cost model to optimize electricity storage capacity



- Simulated Storage Operation



- > Project level feasibility is assessed with a price taker dispatch optimization model
- Inputs for the price-taker storage dispatch model:
 - From system value analysis: energy prices, reserve prices, load, renewable generation
 - > From the user: storage parameters, product durations, reserve utilization ratio
 - User selects services to be provided/markets to participate in
- The price taker model optimizes the dispatch of one selected storage project/pool
 - Gives insights for a marginal project (i.e. one small enough that does not change systemlevel variables like electricity price by changing its dispatch)
 - It is important to consider future effect of storage deployment on system prices



Electricity storage dispatch including provision of grid services

- Storage Project Viability Analysis

Phase

05





A project will only be expected to materialize if monetizable revenues are more than project costs



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Part 3:

Real-world cases of storage use in power systems

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Case 1: Operating Reserves



1. Challenge – Increased need of operational reserves and a faster response

Operating reserves can be defined as the additional capacity above the capacity needed to meet the actual load, which is made available either on-line or on-standby to assist in case of a mismatch between demand and supply



Summary of Operating Reserves

2. Solution – Innovative products to provide reserves

- Electricity storage is an ideal resource to provide operating reserves
 it can act as both a load and a generator
- Useful to have innovative products where storage could provide more valuable services, e.g. Enhanced Frequency Response (EFR)

3. Real-life Scenario

- In August 2015, National Grid launched 200MW auction to provide EFR
- 2 projects awarded to UK investment firm Low Carbon Glassenbury (40MW) and Cleator (10 MW)
- Annual production of 28MWh and 7MWh respectively
- The 2 projects provide ¼ of total EFR capacity in the UK and help to stabilize frequency in the UK's grid



Frequency Response Services in the UK (Source: National Grid, 2016)

Case 7: Reduced Peaking Plant Capital Savings



1. Challenge – Ensure Generation Adequacy

- To operate the power system in a secure and reliable way, supply must equal demand at all times
- Due to the limited predictability of VRE, ensuring system adequacy could become increasingly challenging (also due to climate change)

2. Solution – Capacity Mechanisms vs. Scarcity Price

- Solutions can be classified into:
- a) Energy-Only Markets
- Affirms that market price signals are enough to ensure generation adequacy, e.g. through very high prices during scarcity events
- It assumes that electricity markets are perfectly competitive, and prices will signal when (and where) new generation capacity is required

b) Security of Supply Mechanisms

- Implies that the regulator intervenes to ensure generation adequacy
 - Price Mechanisms set an income that generation will receive for providing firm capacity
 - Quantity Mechanisms the regulator establishes the capacity required to ensure generation adequacy
- For electricity storage, security of supply mechanisms might be a better option since they provide a predictable (and stackable) revenue stream

3. Real-life Scenario

- An example of storage deployed via security of supply mechanisms is the UK capacity market
- Other systems are implementing capacity mechanisms where storage can participate (e.g., United States, Alberta or Italy)



2020 demand curve in Massachusetts with and without electricity storage Source: (Customized Energy Solutions et al., 2016)



- ES supports VRE integration and its large scale deployment can provide considerable benefits to the power system and the society in general (i.e. economic, technical, environmental)
- ES projects will only be deployed if the gap between monetizable revenues and cost can be bridged by adjustments in policy, regulations and market design. Designing such adjustments and avoiding both "missing money" and "misallocated money" requires thorough quantitative analysis
- Cost-benefit analysis of ES need to consider the following:
 - > Technical suitability of ES for specific system services focus on those required for decarbonisation
 - Techno-economic comparison of ES against alternative options
 - > Estimation of both monetizable and non-monetizable benefits of ES and comparison with ES costs
- Application and use of the ESVF requires some expertise on analytical tools and comes with a number of constraints:
 - Estimation of ES at the distribution level need to be based on assumptions and simplifications
 - Accuracy of results depends on spatial and temporal granularity of tools used in the analysis
 - Sector coupling by definition requires a multi-sectoral framework beyond the electricity market

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