

SolarInnovate Energy Solutions

Greek energy storage solutions



Overview

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. 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 .

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.

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.

Will Greece install 900 MW of storage by 2030?

According to the Greek National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), the nation aims to install 4.3 GW of storage by 2030. Thus far, 900 MW has been allocated via the Greek Regulatory Authority for Energy, Waste, and Water (RAAEY) tenders. Therefore, the remaining share would be delivered under the new plan but without any subsidy support.

How many storage plants are there in Greece?

Currently there are four (4) storage plants operating in Greece, two open-loop pumped-hydro storage (PHS) stations in the mainland (700 MW in total) and two small hybrid RES-storage stations in non-interconnected islands (just 3 MW).

Who is eligible to participate in the first energy storage auction?

To be eligible to participate in the first auction, projects must hold a valid Energy Storage Licence while a set of other eligibility criteria (including soundness of the technology used and minimum power injection capacity) must be met.

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