

ContainerPower Energy Solutions

Is energy storage solar profitable



Overview

Despite rising negative electricity prices, investing in solar power—especially with battery storage—remains profitable, offering energy independence and long-term savings amid market shifts. How can energy storage be profitable?

Where a profitable application of energy storage requires saving of costs or deferral of investments, direct mechanisms, such as subsidies and rebates, will be effective. For applications dependent on price arbitrage, the existence and access to variable market prices are essential.

Is energy storage a profitable business model?

Although academic analysis finds that business models for energy storage are largely unprofitable, annual deployment of storage capacity is globally on the rise (IEA, 2020). One reason may be generous subsidy support and non-financial drivers like a first-mover advantage (Wood Mackenzie, 2019).

Why should you invest in energy storage?

Investment in energy storage can enable them to meet the contracted amount of electricity more accurately and avoid penalties charged for deviations. Revenue streams are decisive to distinguish business models when one application applies to the same market role multiple times.

Are electricity storage technologies a viable investment option?

Although electricity storage technologies could provide useful flexibility to modern power systems with substantial shares of power generation from intermittent renewables, investment opportunities and their profitability have remained ambiguous.

Do investors underestimate the value of energy storage?

While energy storage is already being deployed to support grids across major power markets, new McKinsey analysis suggests investors often underestimate the value of energy storage in their business cases.

Are rooftop solar panels a profitable investment?

Many have studied the profitability of specific investment opportunities, such as the use of lithium-ion batteries for residential consumers to increase the utilization of electricity generated by their rooftop solar panels (Hoppmann et al., 2014; Stephan et al., 2016; van der Stelt et al., 2018).

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