

ContainerPower Energy Solutions

Power generation price of flow batteries



 **LFP 280Ah C&I**



Overview

Recent projects show flow battery prices dancing between \$300-\$600/kWh installed. Compare that to lithium-ion's \$150-\$200/kWh sticker price, but wait—there's a plot twist. How do you calculate a flow battery cost per kWh?

It's integral to understanding the long-term value of a solution, including flow batteries. Diving into the specifics, the cost per kWh is calculated by taking the total costs of the battery system (equipment, installation, operation, and maintenance) and dividing it by the total amount of electrical energy it can deliver over its lifetime.

What is a flow battery?

At their heart, flow batteries are electrochemical systems that store power in liquid solutions contained within external tanks. This design differs significantly from solid-state batteries, such as lithium-ion variants, where energy is enclosed within the battery unit itself.

Are flow batteries worth the cost per kWh?

Naturally, the financial aspect will always be a compelling factor. However, the key to unlocking the potential of flow batteries lies in understanding their unique cost structure and capitalizing on their distinctive strengths. It's clear that the cost per kWh of flow batteries may seem high at first glance.

What is the capital cost of flow battery?

The capital cost of flow battery includes the cost components of cell stacks (electrodes, membranes, gaskets and bolts), electrolytes (active materials, salts, solvents, bromine sequestration agents), balance of plant (BOP) (tanks, pumps, heat exchangers, condensers and rebalance cells) and power conversion system (PCS).

Are flow battery systems economically viable?

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economic viability of flow battery systems has garnered substantial attention in recent years, but technoeconomic models often overlook the costs associated with electrolyte tanks.

How long do flow batteries last?

Flow batteries also boast impressive longevity. In ideal conditions, they can withstand many years of use with minimal degradation, allowing for up to 20,000 cycles. This fact is especially significant, as it can directly affect the total cost of energy storage, bringing down the cost per kWh over the battery's lifespan.

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