

ContainerPower Energy Solutions

Profit model of solar power station and energy storage power station



Overview

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).

How do business models of energy storage work?

Building upon both strands of work, we propose to characterize business models of energy storage as the combination of an application of storage with the revenue stream earned from the operation and the market role of the investor.

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.

How is the equivalent profit of energy storage calculated?

In this model, the equivalent profit of energy storage in the configuration stage is calculated based on the expected profit in the operation stage. Meanwhile, the expected profit in the operation stage also depends on the optimization of energy storage capacity configuration in the configuration stage.

What is a prediction error model for photovoltaic power generation?

Reference establishes a prediction error model for photovoltaic power generation, which is able to adjust the operation of the energy storage system with the deviation of PV output, based on this basis, an economically optimal energy storage configuration method adapted to the change of PV output is

proposed.

How would a storage facility exploit differences in power prices?

In application (8), the owner of a storage facility would seize the opportunity to exploit differences in power prices by selling electricity when prices are high and buying energy when prices are low.

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