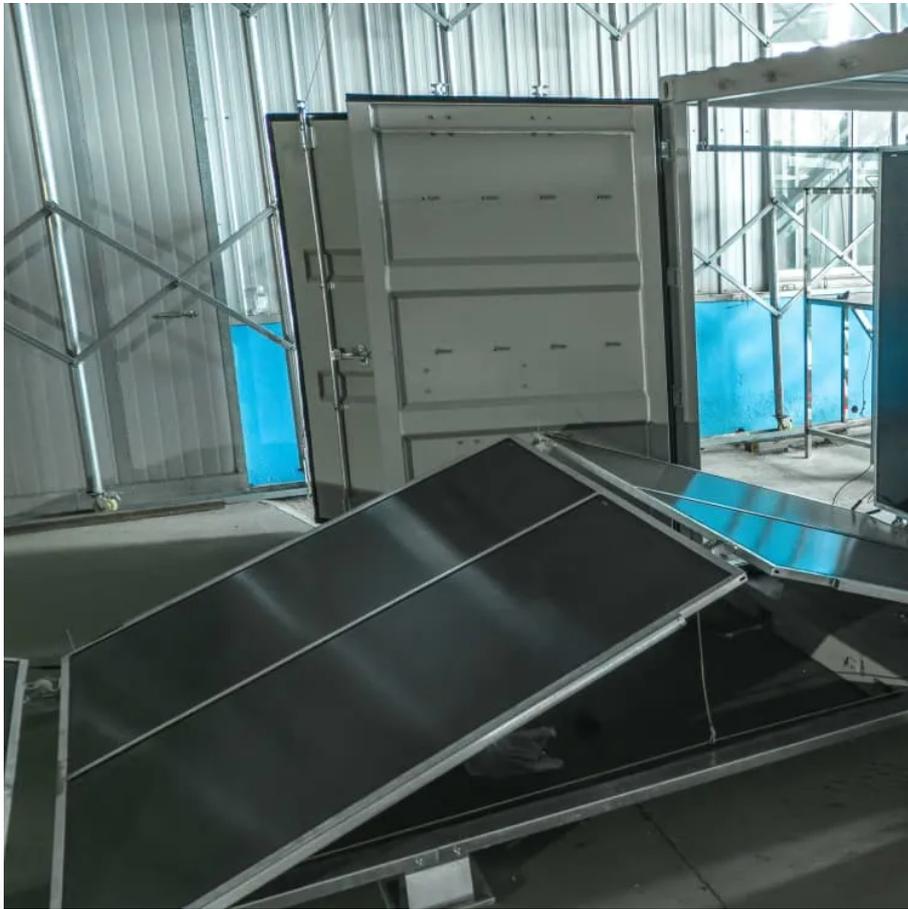


PDEOZE PowerContainer

Energy storage power station battery profitability



Overview

For example, the average revenue of an Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) battery in 2023 was \$182 per kilowatt per year, but the best-performing asset in the same region was closer to \$300 per kilowatt per year, a 60 percent increase. 4 Similar dynamics—where there is a large spread between the best and worst performers—are observed in other grid-scale battery markets, such as the United Kingdom. 5 A variety of factors, including design choices such as battery duration and commercial strategy, can affect these outcomes. 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).

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 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.

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.

What are business models for energy storage?

Business Models for Energy Storage Rows display market roles, columns reflect types of revenue streams, and boxes specify the business model around an application. Each of the three parameters is useful to systematically differentiate investment opportunities for energy storage in terms of applicable business models.

Does a grid-level battery energy storage system perform energy arbitrage?

The present work proposes a long-term techno-economic profitability analysis considering the net profit stream of a grid-level battery energy storage system (BESS) performing energy arbitrage as a grid service.

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