

Comments on “Charging Forward: Energy Storage in a Net Zero Commonwealth”

Only since “renewables”, namely wind and solar, have been considered as clean energy sources for our electricity, has the question of energy storage become necessary to stabilize the grid. Until now fuel itself was storage. And today there is a clean energy option the commonwealth is ignoring that has fuel storage, namely nuclear energy. To meet the wind and solar requirements established in the CECP, storage is required, Storage is very expensive, extremely resource intensive and inefficient mechanism.

1. Energy storage is very inefficient. First it does not generate energy but is a mechanism that charges using energy generated elsewhere and then discharges as it provides power. Whether storage is mechanical or chemical, power is lost in both storing and using the energy.
2. Batteries use excessive resources. A recent report by material scientist Simon Michaud shows that there is not enough material in the world to meet the requirements of a worldwide system of wind/solar with battery storage.
3. The uncertainty of weather patterns makes uncertain the answer to the question “how much do we need?” Last year’s 15-day period (April 21 – May 5, 2023) of essentially no wind is an indication of the vast quantity of storage that will be required. Having blackouts because we do not have sufficient storage is not an option. Our society depends on having a steady stable supply of electricity.

To quote Professor Michaud: “The green energy transition will not work as planned”. See <https://youtu.be/YbnXMv19Hck?si=-8Wr5Sua43arNN5c>

Thank you for accepting these comments.

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