



Chad Shelter Energy Storage Fire Fighting System

How can a battery energy storage system protect against a fire?

For businesses that use battery energy storage systems, there are several proactive steps that can be taken to protect against a fire. This includes three specific methods: One of the primary methods to combat thermal runaway in BESS is through the use of cooling agents.

What is battery energy storage fire prevention & mitigation?

In 2019, EPRI began the Battery Energy Storage Fire Prevention and Mitigation - Phase I research project, convened a group of experts, and conducted a series of energy storage site surveys and industry workshops to identify critical research and development (R&D) needs regarding battery safety.

Are battery energy storage systems a fire hazard?

As the demand for renewable energy sources escalates, Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) have become pivotal in stabilizing the electrical grid and ensuring a continuous power supply. However, the high-density energy stored in these systems poses significant fire risks, necessitating cutting-edge fire suppression solutions.

What happened at Gateway energy storage facility?

On May 15, 2024, Gateway Energy Storage Facility in San Diego, California, experienced a BESS fire with continued flare-ups for seven days following the fire. The facility held about 15,000 nickel manganese cobalt lithium-ion batteries.

How many MWh of battery energy were involved in the fires?

In total, more than 180 MWh were involved in the fires. For context, Wood Mackenzie, which conducts power and renewable energy research, estimates 17.9 GWh of cumulative battery energy storage capacity was operating globally in that same period, implying that nearly 1 out of every 100 MWh had failed in this way.¹

How do ESS fire protection systems work?

These layers of protection help prevent damage to the system but can also block water from accessing the seat of the fire. This means that it takes large amounts of water to effectively dissipate the heat generated from ESS fires since cooling the hottest part of the fire is often difficult.



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