

# Typical design of photovoltaic power generation and energy storage

What is solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation?

Solar photovoltaic (PV) power generation is the process of converting energy from the sun into electricity using solar panels. Solar panels, also called PV panels, are combined into arrays in a PV system. PV systems can also be installed in grid-connected or off-grid (stand-alone) configurations.

Should energy storage be integrated with large scale PV power plants?

As a solution, the integration of energy storage within large scale PV power plants can help to comply with these challenging grid code requirements<sup>1</sup>. Accordingly, ES technologies can be expected to be essential for the interconnection of new large scale PV power plants.

Which technology should be used in a large scale photovoltaic power plant?

In addition, considering its medium cyclability requirement, the most recommended technologies would be the ones based on flow and Lithium-Ion batteries. The way to interconnect energy storage within the large scale photovoltaic power plant is an important feature that can affect the price of the overall system.

What are the energy storage requirements in photovoltaic power plants?

Energy storage requirements in photovoltaic power plants are reviewed. Li-ion and flywheel technologies are suitable for fulfilling the current grid codes. Supercapacitors will be preferred for providing future services. Li-ion and flow batteries can also provide market oriented services.

Are energy storage services economically feasible for PV power plants?

Nonetheless, it was also estimated that in 2020 these services could be economically feasible for PV power plants. In contrast, in the energy storage value of each of these services (firming and time-shift) were studied for a 2.5 MW PV power plant with 4 MW and 3.4 MWh energy storage. In this case, the PV plant is part of a microgrid.

What is a typical large scale PV plant configuration?

Fig. 3 shows a typical large scale PV plant configuration in absence of energy storage. PV panels are normally connected in series and parallel to form PV arrays. Each array can deliver a power of several hundred of kW up to few MW (direct current, DC).

For this purpose, this article first summarizes the different characteristics of the energy storage technologies. Then, it reviews the grid services large scale photovoltaic power ...

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