Energy storage for load shifting brussels

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A robust regulatory framework is needed for energy storage to reach its full potential in the European Union (EU). As part of the EU’s Clean Energy for All Europeans legislative package, the Electricity Market Design Directive (recast) will soon become law, mandating recognition by EU Member States of the role energy storage has to play in the region’s power markets. However, whether barriers to energy storage are reduced depends on how the directive will be implemented into national law.

In our article, we consider progress to date in the German, French, Greek and Dutch markets. The absence of a robust regulatory framework has been a key barrier to the adoption of energy storage on a large scale. For example, in a number of jurisdictions, stored electricity faces a double charge, levied on consumption by the storage facility, as well as on the end-consumer. Therefore, a level playing field for energy storage projects needs to be created.

Despite the challenges storage developers and operators are bringing forward developments and a number of initiatives are already stimulating national markets. For example, the Netherlands is proposing actions through the Climate Act and Climate Accord and Greece has a number of initiatives to facilitate energy self-sufficiency to non-interconnected islands.

The Electricity Market Design Directive (recast) signals an important step in the clean energy transition and may catalyse national legislative initiatives, providing impetus for regulatory change and acting as an incentive for project developers and financiers across Europe.

Global energy storage economics to be transformed by predicted 52 per cent cost reduction by 2030

A report from Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF) suggests that the global energy storage market will grow to a cumulative 942GW/2,857GWh capacity by 2040, attracting US$620bn in investment. BNEF suggests that this is due to sharply decreasing battery costs, which will make the economic case for batteries in the vehicle and electricity sectors. It is predicted that China, the US, India, Japan, Germany, France, Australia, South Korea and the UK will dominate the market with two thirds of the share by 2040. Developing countries in Africa are also likely to see rapid growth in battery storage as utilities recognize the value of combining solar, storage and diesel in remote regions, thus providing a viable alternative to grid extensions and reliance on fossil fuels.

Amid global battery boom, 2019 marks new era for energy storage

SolarEdge acquires Kokam, a provider of lithium-ion cells, batteries and energy storage solutions

SolarEdge Technologies Inc, a photovoltaics company, acquired approximately 75 per cent of the outstanding equity shares of Kokam Co Ltd for US$88m. Headquartered in South Korea, Kokam is a provider of lithium-ion battery cells, batteries and energy storage solutions. Over time, SolarEdge intends to purchase the remaining outstanding equity shares of Kokam, eventually resulting in Kokam becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of SolarEdge.