

Flywheel energy storage republic of china

The 30 MW plant is the first utility-scale, grid-connected flywheel energy storage project in China and the largest one in the world.

Main components of a typical flywheel

Image: Pjrensburg, Wikimedia Commons

China has connected to the grid its first large-scale standalone flywheel energy storage project in Shanxi Province's city of Changzhi.

The Dinglun Flywheel Energy Storage Power Station broke ground in July last year. China Energy Construction Shanxi Power Engineering Institute and Shanxi Electric Power Construction Company carried out the construction works. BC New Energy was the technology provider and Shenzhen Energy Group was the main investor.

The project represents a pioneering use of a semi-buried underground well system designed to provide a safe environment for the operation, waterproofing, cooling, and maintenance of the flywheel unit.

Flywheel energy storage technology is a form of mechanical energy storage that works by accelerating a rotor (flywheel) to a very high speed and maintaining the energy in the system as kinetic energy. Compared to other mechanical energy storage technologies such as pumped hydro and compressed air, flywheel storage has higher energy and power density, higher efficiency, and rapid response.

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