

The need for battery energy storage

The way in which we use, and generate, electricity is changing. Our electricity system is in a transitional period to manage the increasingly complex supply and demand needs of the 21st Century, and battery energy storage systems (BESS) provide an important role in this.

BESS supports the variable generation of renewable energy technologies by playing an important balancing and grid stability role. It helps support the network operator by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and releasing electricity back to the grid network when demand exceeds generation.

BESS is considered the fastest technology for responding to a sudden spike in demand or an abrupt loss of supply. BESS can also provide grid stability (frequency of the grid) services on a second-by-second basis as well as providing additional network capacity, particularly at times of network stress.

BESS is essential to enabling and accelerating the rollout of zero carbon energy. Increasing its installed capacity will be vital to support Northern Ireland's net-zero emissions target and help to deliver a reliable, resilient, decarbonised electricity system for the future.



Image for illustrative purposes only