

Sponsors: Seattle City Light; Michigan Municipal Electric Association; Sacramento Municipal Utility District; Austin Energy; Omaha Public Power District; Snohomish Public Utility District; CPS Energy; Tacoma Public Utilities

In Support of Energy Storage

1 Ongoing innovation in energy storage has created new and unique opportunities for public power utilities
2 to harness this technology to provide benefits to the communities they serve. Increased adoption of energy
3 storage technology can benefit grid reliability, including by supporting microgrids, providing voltage
4 support, and frequency regulation. Energy storage may also increase grid resiliency by providing backup
5 power for both traditional generating resources and distributed energy resources (DERs). If paired with
6 low- or non-emitting emissions resources, energy storage can support utility efforts to improve their
7 environmental footprint and make intermittent resources, like wind and solar, more manageable. Further,
8 energy storage may be used to reduce the need to build new generation and transmission, creating savings
9 through avoided cost. Similarly, energy storage may be utilized to fulfill resource adequacy requirements,
10 avoiding the cost of building new resources or maintaining older, more costly generation. Given the
11 economic, environmental, and resiliency benefits of energy storage, public power utilities support further
12 development and deployment of this important technology.

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14 Public power utilities are increasingly considering investments in energy storage technology or are
15 already utilizing energy storage to meet the distinctive needs and challenges facing the communities they
16 serve. However, overly prescriptive federal policies, including mandates related to rate design, the local
17 permitting process, and federal intrusion on state and local jurisdictional matters, would not only limit the
18 breadth of benefits that energy storage is able to provide, but also the ability for utilities to make use of
19 the technology as safely and effectively as possible.

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21 The federal government should instead continue to provide support for existing and emerging energy
22 storage technology through research, development, and deployment. Efforts to decrease the costs of
23 storage technology and increase the duration of time for which energy can be stored should be a priority.
24 Finally, should the federal government choose to incentivize energy storage deployment through the tax
25 code, it must ensure that those incentives are available to public power utilities and their customers.

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27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** That the American Public Power Association (APPA)
28 supports policies that bolster research and development of energy storage technology, including by
29 reducing costs and increasing storage duration, and policies that incent the deployment of beneficial
30 energy storage technology; and

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32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That APPA urges Congress and federal agencies to support the
33 development and deployment of energy storage technology in a manner that recognizes state and local
34 authority, increases reliability, and keeps costs affordable for consumers.

Adopted at the Legislative & Resolutions Committee meeting

March 2, 2021

Sunsets in March 2029