Paris Session 2022



Applications of Grid Forming Inverters in BESS and Contribution to System Strength Improvements

SC B3 Substations PS1 / Q1.2

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Group Discussion Meeting

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Grid Scale BESS in the NEM

According to AEMO there are:

- 6 large scale BESS in operation in the NEM
- 85 large BESS are in the planning phase

#01

#02

#03

First large-scale BESS in the NEM was built in 2017 in SA 100 MW and then upgraded to 150 MW

Dalrymple BESS in SA 30 MW

Ballarat ESS in Victoria 25 MW

#04

Gannawarra ESS in Victoria 25 MW

#05

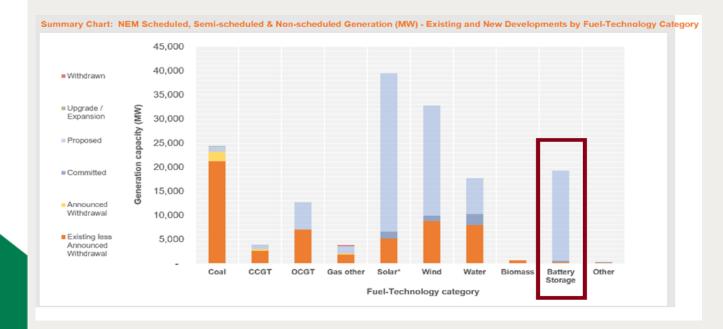
Lake Bonney in SA 25 MW

#06

Geelong – Victorian Big Battery 300 MW

Group Discussion Meeting

Grid Scale BESS Registration in the NEM Current and Future



According to AEMO in the recent Integrated System Plan:

- 30 GW of large-scale BESS to replace 63
 % of coal fired generation by 2040
- 85 BESS applications are in the planning phase

BESS – Types of Inverters

Current Source Inverters:

- Typically used for Solar and Wind Farm applications as Grid Following Inverters

Voltage Source Inverters:

-Typically used for BESS with Grid Forming Capability

The design of the two types of inverters is quite different

This is due to the differences in the controller functionality

BESS – Impact of Using Different Types of Inverters in Substations Applications

- BESS with grid forming inverters are preferred for transmission type applications
- BESS with grid forming inverters contribute to the improvement of system strength
- When connected to substations at the end of a radial line they can supply the load downstream in an islanded mode
- Can provide Black Start support to the transmission network
- They are connected to transmission network substations
- There are multiple design aspects of connecting a BESS such as: AC supplies, earthing, UPS requirements, extensive new SCADA signals

Comparison of Grid Following (GFI), Grid Forming(GFMI) and Grid Forming in Virtual Synchronous Generator Mode (VSG)

	GFI	GFMI	VGS
Cap Trading	1	√	√
Energy Time Shifting	√	√	√
Synthetic Inertia			√
Spinning Reserve	√	V	\checkmark
Fast voltage control and reactive power support		V	\checkmark
FCAS (Frequency Control Ancillary Services)	√	V	\checkmark
FFR (Fast Frequency Response)	√	V	√
Spinning Reserve	√	V	√
Fault Level Contribution		V	\checkmark
Black Start Capability		V	\checkmark
SRAS (System Restart Ancillary Services)		√	\checkmark