Energy storage regulations spain

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Energy storage projects may face challenges from the recently passed self-consumption legislation, Royal Decree 900/2015 (the "Decree"), passed in October 2015. This legislation aims to establish technical, economic and administrative regulation for the consumption of electricity.

In line with the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030 where the Government has developed a new regulatory framework for renewables and a national strategy for self-consumption, among others, the Council of Ministers last week approved the Energy Storage Strategy.

From extended administrative milestones to revamped access procedures and taxation adjustments, this comprehensive overview delves into the evolving landscape of sustainable energy initiatives, offering insights into regulatory shifts, participation possibilities, and emerging opportunities in the renewable energy sector.

The Spanish government has implemented a set of measures aimed at increasing the stability of the electricity system, including new regulations aimed at boosting the deployment of storage facilities. Energy regulation considerations

In line with the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030 where the Government has developed a new regulatory framework for renewables and a national strategy for self-consumption, among others, the Council of Ministers last week approved the Energy Storage Strategy. In this blog we will comment the fundamental aspects of this regulation and how it will impact the evolution of the markets.

As we already know, storage systems give the system flexibility and stability. Especially with increased renewable participation as expected where uncertainty and variability play an important role.

Storage systems are also key elements in ensuring the transition to a cleaner economy and optimising the use of renewables. Thus, avoiding the loss of energy that we stop using when capacity exceeds demand. Energy that we could use, for example, at times when the sun is not shining or the wind is not blowing, thus also reducing its price.

The Strategy, with a long-term perspective, analyses the energy system as a whole. It defines a series of measures to the correct deployment of energy storage and its full integration into the current system, and identifies the points on which research and development must focus in order to have the necessary technologies available. It also analyses the challenges faced and the opportunities presented by its development, especially in the value chain.

Firstly, the plan provides a total storage capacity of 20GW in 2030 and 30GW in 2050, building on the 8.3GW of capacity available today. In both cases, both large-scale storage (solar thermal power plants) and distributed

storage, which refers to small generation facilities, are considered. It also considers the use of the energy available in the electric vehicle fleet.

The plan brings together a wide range of storage technologies. From the most mature, such as pumped-storage hydropower plants, which drive water to be stored in high-altitude reservoirs and release it to produce electricity when there is high demand.

Of course, it also considers batteries, which are especially relevant both for their application in the electric mobility sector and in self-consumption systems. Also important is their application on a large scale through hybridization with renewable generation plants.

The plan has also considered thermal storage systems, used in solar thermal power plants, where heat is stored in molten salt tanks at high temperatures and then used to generate electricity. In this case, it is possible to adapt production to demand.