

A-Core Container

How much does a set of all-vanadium liquid flow batteries cost



Overview

Breaking down a typical 100kW/400kWh vanadium flow battery system: Recent projects show flow battery prices dancing between \$300-\$600/kWh installed. What is a vanadium flow battery?

Image: University of Padua, Applied Energy, Creative Commons License CC BY 4.0 Vanadium flow batteries are one of the most promising large-scale energy storage technologies due to their long cycle life, high recyclability, and safety credentials.

Are vanadium redox flow batteries profitable?

Researchers in Italy have estimated the profitability of future vanadium redox flow batteries based on real device and market parameters and found that market evolutions are heading to much more competitive systems, with capital costs down to €260/kWh at a storage duration of 10 hours.

Are there any vanadium flow batteries in the United States?

The United States has some vanadium flow battery installations, albeit at a smaller scale. One is a microgrid pilot project in California that was completed in January 2022.

Are redox flow batteries cheaper than lithium ion?

Overall we think that for long-duration, grid-scale electricity storage, redox flow batteries are looking more economical than lithium ion, especially once storage durations surpass 6-8 hours. Our comparison file is here. This data-file contains a bottom-up build up of the costs of a Vanadium redox flow battery.

Are flow batteries worth it?

While this might appear steep at first, over time, flow batteries can deliver value due to their longevity and scalability. Operational expenditures (OPEX), on the other hand, are ongoing costs associated with the use of the battery. This includes maintenance, replacement parts, and energy costs for operation.

How much does a redox flow battery cost?

The purpose of this data-file is to build up the costs of redox flow batteries, starting from first principles, for Vanadium redox flow batteries. A 6-hour redox flow battery costing \$3,000/kW would need to earn a storage spread of 20c/kWh to earn a 10% return with daily charging and discharging over a 30-year period of backstopping renewables.

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