



SolarTech Power Solutions

Australian outpost communication base station inverter connected to the grid 6 9MWh



Overview

Can a battery energy storage system connect with a grid-forming inverter?

This fact sheet contains information relevant to parties seeking to connect battery energy storage systems (BESS) with grid-forming inverter capabilities within the National Electricity Market (NEM), as of December 2022.

Are grid-connected inverters safe to use in Australia?

Grid-connected inverters for use in Australia must comply with the prescribed Australian Standards. AS/NZS 3100:2017. The Clean Energy Council (CEC) provides a list of these approved inverters. The CEC list is regularly updated and can be found on the CEC website: 10. Section 7.2.2 - AC Specifications.

How do I set up my inverter in Australia?

Since 2021 it's mandatory that all inverters in Australia are configured to follow one of Australia's AS4777.2 Grid Codes. Navigate to the settings page by pressing the 'cog' symbol in the top right corner of the touch screen. Ensure your grid type, voltage and frequency also match. Touch the tick in the bottom right corner to save.

What happens if an inverter is not compatible with a grid?

Updated testing methods ensure that inverters meet modern grid compatibility standards. Non-compliance with AS/NZS 4777 standards can lead to: Rejection of grid connection applications. Safety hazards, such as electrical shocks and fires. Reduced system efficiency and reliability. Fines or penalties for installers and manufacturers.

Can advanced grid-scale inverters be used in the NEM?

For additional context, readers are recommended to also review the white paper on the Application of Advanced Grid-scale Inverters in the NEM which is available on the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) website¹.

Does NER clause s5.2 5.5 cover grid-forming inverters?

There are some aspects of the current NER clause S5.2.5.5 wording that are not well targeted to the performance characteristics of grid-forming inverters, including paragraph (g) of the automatic access standard and paragraph (o) in the corresponding minimum access standard which consider reactive current commencement, rise time and settling time.

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