

SolarTech Power Solutions

New Energy Storage Firefighting



Overview

What is the new inter-agency Fire Safety Working Group?

On July 28, 2023, Governor Kathy Hochul announced the creation of a new Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group to ensure the safety and security of energy storage systems across the state. Updates and resources can be found on the Working Group's webpage.

Are energy storage sites safe in New York?

The state working group will begin immediate inspections of energy storage sites across the state, Hochul said, and "collaborate with first responders and local leaders to identify best practices, address potential risks to public safety, and ensure energy storage sites across New York are safe and effective."

How many energy storage projects are there in New York State?

As of May 31, there were 4,368 completed energy storage projects in New York State, according to data published by New York Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA.) The vast majority of those are "retail" storage systems, installed at homes and businesses to store electricity produced by solar panels.

What happened at a battery energy storage system?

The governor's announcement came the day after fire erupted at a battery energy storage system in the Town of Lyme, in upstate Jefferson County on July 27. Hochul cited that fire and others at battery energy storage facilities in the Town of Warwick, in Orange County on June 26 and in the Town of East Hampton in Suffolk on May 31.

Are energy storage systems regulated in New York?

Energy storage technologies and systems are regulated at the federal, state, and local levels, and must undergo rigorous safety testing to be authorized for installation in New York.

What is energy storage?

Energy storage is a vital component in a power grid that relies on renewable energy resources, such as solar and wind power. Battery systems store power produced by renewable energy systems for deployment during peak times of consumption, when wind and solar systems are often not at peak production.

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