

## ContainerPower Energy Solutions

# Farm Smart solar Energy Storage System



## Overview

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Who can benefit from solar-plus-storage systems?

Ultimately, residential and commercial solar customers, and utilities and large-scale solar operators alike, can benefit from solar-plus-storage systems. As research continues and the costs of solar energy and storage come down, solar and storage solutions will become more accessible to all Americans.

Does solar buildout strengthen farm viability and keep land in farming?

Enacting local, state, and federal policies that ensure the U.S. solar buildout strengthens farm viability and keeps land in farming will be critical to reducing land use and siting tensions and getting renewable energy projects built. AFT developed policy recommendations to meet these goals and advance Smart Solar<sup>SM</sup> principles.

Why is solar storage important?

Storage helps solar contribute to the electricity supply even when the sun isn't shining. It can also help smooth out variations in how solar energy flows on the grid. These variations are attributable to changes in the amount of sunlight that shines onto photovoltaic (PV) panels or concentrating solar-thermal power (CSP) systems.

How long does solar storage last?

Short-term storage that lasts just a few minutes will ensure a solar plant operates smoothly during output fluctuations due to passing clouds, while longer-term storage can help provide supply over days or weeks when solar energy production is low or during a major weather event, for example.

Should solar energy be developed on farmland or rangeland?

If solar energy is developed on farmland or rangeland, policies and practices protect soil health, especially during construction and decommissioning, to ensure opportunities for farming in the future. Agriculture and solar energy

can coexist if appropriate planning is undertaken.

Can solar energy be used as a energy storage system?

Existing compressed air energy storage systems often use the released air as part of a natural gas power cycle to produce electricity. Solar power can be used to create new fuels that can be combusted (burned) or consumed to provide energy, effectively storing the solar energy in the chemical bonds.

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