

How much energy storage is installed in Italy?

As of 30 June, 2023, a total of 3,045 MW and 4,893 MWh of energy storage is installed in Italy according to ANIE Rinnovabili, the national trade body representing the renewable and clean energy sectors. The energy storage market in Italy doubled in capacity in the first half of the year, though Q2 saw the first slowdown in nine quarters.

How will Italy invest in electricity storage?

Italy will promote investments in utility scale electricity storage to reach at least 70 GWh, and worth over Euro 17 bn, in the next ten years. The new storage capacity will be acquired through tenders published by Terna, the manager of Italy's high voltage grid. The next tender will be released in 2024.

Are battery energy storage systems needed in Italy?

Therefore, battery energy storage systems (BESS) are needed in Italy. The Italian market for BESS is growing rapidly and currently amounts to 2.3 GW but it almost exclusively consists of residential scale systems, associated with small scale solar plants, having a capacity of less than 20 kWh.

How will Italy develop utility-scale electricity storage facilities?

To develop utility-scale electricity storage facilities, the Italian Government set up a scheme that was approved by the European Commission at the end of 2023. Italy will promote investments in utility scale electricity storage to reach at least 70 GWh, and worth over Euro 17 bn, in the next ten years.

How many storage systems are there in Italy?

More in detail, 311,189 storage systems were present in Italy in mid- 2023, with a total power of 2,329 MW and a maximum capacity of 3,946 MWh. Terna (the high voltage grid operator) also holds systems totaling 60 MW in power and 250 MWh in capacity.

Are energy storage facilities regulated in Italy?

The Italian regulatory framework concerning energy storage facilities has been evolving rapidly in recent years. However, the legislation is relatively fragmented, given the high number of laws governing different aspects of energy storage facilities.

According to data released last week by Italian solar energy association Italia Solare, Italy's independent energy storage installations surged in the first half of 2024, with a connected capacity of approximately 650 MW, almost 10 times that of the same period in 2023.

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As of 31 March 2022, most Italian energy storage facilities have been built in connection with small-scale solar power plants, while medium to large-scale storage systems are less commonplace. Storage systems combined with thermoelectric power plants, fuel cells and wind power plants are still very rare.

The energy storage market in Italy doubled in capacity in the first half of the year, though Q2 saw the first slowdown in nine quarters and that could be repeated in H2, according to the country's renewable energy trade body.

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Italy's NECP targets between 7.5 GW and 8.5 GW of energy storage by 2030, of which 4.5 GW is expected to come from customer-sited storage systems.²⁴ The remaining 3-4 GW is expected to come from utility-scale systems. By 2050, Italy aims to achieve 30-40 GW of storage capacity.

The grid-scale energy storage market in Italy is set to become one of the most active in Europe in the next few years having been close to non-existent until now. Research firm LCP Delta recently forecast that after annual grid-scale deployments of just 20MW in the last few years, Italy would deploy 800-900MW in 2023/2024, second in scale only ...

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