



Policy Resolution 3.2019

Advancing Deployment of Energy Storage Technologies in the South

Originating Sponsor

Representative Lynn Smith, Georgia

Co-Sponsors

Dr. Mary Beth Tung, Governor's Alternate, Maryland

Representative Mark McBride, Oklahoma

Senator Ken Yager, Tennessee

WHEREAS, utilities and electricity providers must operate the grid safely and reliably while balancing ever changing customer demand and energy resources; and

WHEREAS, energy storage is an increasingly critical resource for a flexible and efficient electric grid that allows utilities to address customer demands without interruption of service and at reasonable rates; and

WHEREAS, the declining costs of energy storage and technological advancements have deployed increasing amounts of the resource on the grid, both behind and in front of the meter; and

WHEREAS, energy storage exists in many forms, such as pumped hydro, flywheels, batteries, and compressed air storage, and energy storage is bi-directionally capable of consuming and producing electric power; and

WHEREAS, energy storage can be scaled to function as a key component of the generation, transmission, and distribution sectors; and

WHEREAS, energy storage can provide fast responses to generation changes along with essential grid services that can result in customer savings, such as load shaping abilities, voltage regulation, and energy arbitrage.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages the region's utilities to continue research and development in all forms of energy storage and to assess the various roles and benefits it can play within their operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages the region's Public Utility Commissions to allow regulated utilities and its customers to increase their understanding and familiarity of energy storage technologies through research and strategic pilot projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages the region's utilities, in cooperation with states' utilization commission and consumer advocate, to study and report the compounding effects of battery degradation to accurately evaluate true costs to electricity generators, distributors, and consumers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages the continued funding of the Department of Energy for purposes of advancing and demonstrating energy storage technologies throughout the southern region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Southern States Energy Board encourages its member states to review existing policy and legislation for inclusion of energy storage.



*Unanimously adopted on September 24, 2019, at the
59th Annual Meeting of the Southern States Energy Board in Louisville, Kentucky*