

PRESS RELEASE:

BVES LARGE-SCALE STORAGE CONFERENCE SHOWS: NO ENERGY TRANSITION WITHOUT STORAGE, NO STORAGE WITHOUT FITTING REGULATION

The energy storage strategy of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Action (BMWK) is a good start in the right direction, but further steps must follow – that was the core message from the status conference "Large-Scale Storage for the Power Grid" of the BVES (German Energy Storage Systems Association).

With over 300 guests on-site and nearly 400 online in the live stream, participants from the energy storage industry, science, business, Bundestag, and the federal government discussed at the Allianz Forum at the Brandenburg Gate about the essential role of large-scale energy storage for the power system.

Urban Windelen, Federal Managing Director of BVES, emphasized the prominent and rapidly growing importance of energy storage in his opening remarks. *"Without storage, there is no successful energy transition; without storage, there is no stable and secure energy system. This is now a consensus. The question is no longer whether we need storage but how we achieve the necessary expansion and what framework conditions need to be set for it."*

According to a study by Frontier Economics presented at the BVES conference, the macroeconomic benefits of energy storage by 2050 are at least 12 billion euros. The widespread use of large-scale storage simultaneously leads to a reduction in energy costs and allows for the saving of planned reserve power plants.

Various technology pitches from companies such as BASF, Siemens Energy, Vattenfall, Kyon Energy, MAN Energy Solutions, and H+MV also made it clear that all necessary energy storage technologies are available, market-ready, and quickly scalable. There is no single storage solution, but a variety of storage technologies enable the operation of different application areas from power storage to capacity storage. Dies unterstrich auch nochmals die BVES-Forderung, die rechtlichen Rahmenbedingungen für Speicher technologieneutral auszugestalten und dabei gesamtsystemisch zu denken.

Heinrich Gärtner, Co-founder and CTO of GP Joule and Vice President of BVES (German Energy Storage Association): *"We need a systematic approach from the generation of electricity from renewable energies to its utilization. Renewable energy generation cannot fully exploit its advantages if its affordable energy does not reach the consumer. Therefore, we must also invest in technologies that increase the absorptive capacity and supply capacity of the power grid: energy storage facilities offer a good flexibility option, just like sector coupling through electrolysis and large heat pumps, and the flexibility capacities of industry. Only by looking at the big picture can the energy transition be successfully implemented."*

Support for the call for suitable framework conditions for energy storage also came from politics. Konrad Stockmeier, Member of the German Bundestag (FDP parliamentary group), emphasized in his political impulse that the FDP considers the accelerated expansion of wind and PV as "economically senseless" if networks and, indeed, storage are not expanded in a complementary manner.

The support for storage in the Bundestag was also evident across party lines. Maria-Lena Weiss, Member of the German Bundestag, presented her motion from the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, which supports the demand for regulatory changes for energy storage and was recently the subject of an expert hearing.

Stefan Wenzel, Member of the German Bundestag and Parliamentary State Secretary at the BMWK, outlined the position of the federal government, presenting the BMWK's electricity storage strategy and outlining the further steps for implementation in the subsequent discussion. BVES welcomes the constructive dialogue with the BMWK and gratefully accepts the State Secretary's offer to continue the discussion concretely and promptly. At the same time, BVES called for steps towards an integrated energy storage strategy that looks not only at electricity but the entire energy system.