

Public Comment
Received
for
May 25, 2023
RCEA Board
Regular Meeting

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From: [Jesse Noell](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: comment for April 27, 2023 meeting
Date: Thursday, April 27, 2023 6:01:21 PM
Attachments: [Stationary battery additions.png](#)
[Solar wind battery installs.png](#)
[RCEA projects.png](#)
[RCEA.png](#)

3. Oral & Written Communications

To Whom it may concern,

I am wondering why RCEA did not provide outreach to assure implementation of CARE level NEM rooftops and other structure being covered with solar panels and battery backups to achieve the nation wide levels of resilient electricity generation:

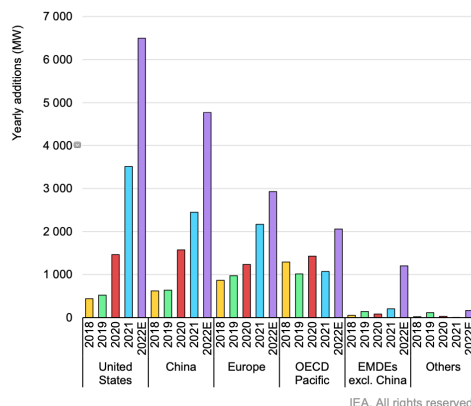
Stationary battery storage capacity additions are speeding up in emerging economies

As the share of variable renewable sources in electricity systems further increase globally, battery systems are expected to play a growing role by providing frequency control and operational reserves as well as for wholesale arbitrage, while helping reduce grid integration costs. The deployment of stationary battery systems is [speeding up](#). In absolute magnitude, the United States, Europe and China are leading the latest annual capacity additions. However, based on our 2022 estimates, emerging markets and developing economies are on the way to catching up.

Compared with 2021, capacity additions in 2022 rose by over 80% in the United States, almost 100% in China, roughly 35% in Europe, 90% in OECD Pacific (i.e. Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand) and about sixfold in EMDEs, excluding China. In 2022, the largest fleet of cumulative battery systems installed remains in the United States while China surpassed Europe in cumulative capacity, reaching a total of 10 500 MW compared to Europe's 9 400 MW.

The deployment rate in EMDEs gathered pace in 2022, with capacity additions more than twice as high as the total cumulative additions in 2015-2021. In China and the United States, over 45% of the installed cumulative capacity was deployed in 2022. By contrast, in EMDEs (excluding China), capacity additions in 2022 had a relatively much higher impact, accounting for almost 70% of the total cumulative capacity in these regions.

Yearly stationary battery system additions by country and region, 2018-2022



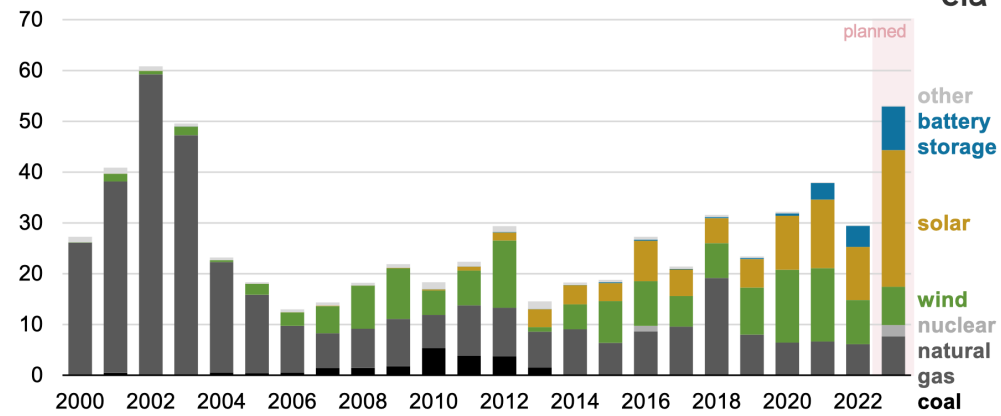
Note: 2022 values are estimates.
Sources: IEA calculations based on Clean Horizon (2022), BNEF (2022), China Energy Storage Alliance (2022).

IEA. All rights reserved.

Wind, solar, and batteries increasingly account for more new U.S. power capacity additions

Annual U.S. electric-generating capacity additions (2000–2023)

gigawatts



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [Preliminary Monthly Electric Generator Inventory](#), January 2023

Wind, solar, and battery storage are growing as a share of new electric-generating capacity each year. In 2023, these three technologies account for 82% of the new, utility-scale generating capacity that developers plan to bring online in the United States, according to our [Preliminary Monthly Electric Generator Inventory](#).

RCEA did note its 2022 accomplishments, but they fall far short of the national norm:

County of Humboldt - Energy Benchmarking: setting the customer up with an online portal that will give them insight into their energy usage across their facilities.

Eureka City Schools - solar, storage, and EV bus charger projects are in progress

Pacific View Charter School – completed upgrade of all lighting to LED. Assisting with heat pump installation.

Pine Hill Elementary - ECAA loan project in progress

Redway Community Services District - revisiting possible solar project

Yurok Tribe - benchmarking and continuing energy efficiency projects for multiple locations



Projects and programs - new or on the horizon

- RCEA held a **contractor and vendor open house breakfast** to provide information to the local workforce about our many offerings. Many attendees signed up for RCEA's Contractor and Vendor Network (online directory for customers).
- We are diving deep into offerings from the **Inflation Reduction Act** to help our customers navigate and access available funding.
- Staff is shepherding the **RuralREN** proposal through the complex regulatory process and aiming for program approval by the end of 2023. RuralREN will bring more energy efficiency, financing, and workforce training programs to the county.
- We launched our **Enhanced Heat Pump Incentive Program (EPIC)** to increase our non-residential heat pump space and water heating incentives. This should make adopting this energy efficient technology more attractive to local businesses and public agencies.
- DSM and Power Resources staff partnered with Food for People for an outreach event in **Hoopa** and signed up new residential customers for our Customer Energy Solutions services.
- RCEA will make a \$100 donation to **Food for People** for every business that schedules a no-cost energy assessment. This is the second year for this successful community food bank promotion.
- **TECH Quick Start Grant** – We have completed our first projects in partnership with local contractors on our grant-funded program to provide heat pump rebates for users of non-regulated fuels such as propane, kerosene, and cordwood. The program rollout continues.
- **Rio Dell "Light the Night"** Project. RCEA is still reaching out and providing residential energy efficiency kits to Rio Dell residents who bring in and dispose of old, inefficient light bulbs at Rio Dell City Hall.

**WE
ARE
HIRING!**

Community Strategies Coordinator

RCEA is recruiting a full-time Program Coordinator to support our marketing and public engagement efforts. This is a frontline position that will interact daily with RCEA customers to promote and support RCEA's many programs and services.

See
our website
for details



REDWOOD COAST
Energy Authority

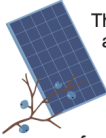
www.RedwoodEnergy.org
(707) 269-1700 • info@RedwoodEnergy.org

Community Choice Energy



Net Energy Metering Updates

In early November, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) released a new proposed decision detailing the successor to the net energy metering (NEM) program (a.k.a. "net billing tariff," or rooftop solar billing). The proposed decision as written will shift from paying customers retail rates for their exports to the grid to paying them based on Avoided Cost Calculator (ACC) values. These are values that change hourly and are intended to reflect an accurate value of rooftop solar to the electric grid. They are much lower than today's NEM export compensation rates.



The grid access charge is not addressed in this proposed decision. The CPUC will address this charge in a different regulatory proceeding.

Customers will be automatically enrolled in the new E-ELEC tariff and pay the E-ELEC rate for grid imports. Currently, NEM customers are enrolled in TOU rates.

The successor tariff provides a "glide path" to the ACC export compensation amounts through the use of an adder that will decrease over time until the base ACC value is achieved. The adder amount is intended to achieve \$100/month bill savings for customers and ensure a 9-year payback period for residential customers. Low-income customers (CARE and FERA) receive a higher adder. Non-residential customers would not receive the adder.

An equity fund is available to help low-income customers access solar plus storage. This will be administered through the Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP).






NEM 1.0 and NEM 2.0 program legacy periods will remain the same (20 years).

In response to the proposed decision, RCEA submitted comments with other CCAs advocating for an extended sunset period for the current NEM program, additional incentives for low-income customers, and additional incentives for non-residential customers.

The earliest the CPUC will vote on a final decision establishing the successor to NEM 2.0 is December 15, 2022.

California Arrearage Payment Program 2.0

On November 22, 2022, the California Department of Community Services and Development awarded RCEA a \$977,599 allocation for the 2022 California Arrearage Payment Program (a.k.a. "CAPP"). This allocation will offer financial assistance for eligible residential customers to help reduce past due energy bill balances that increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rebate totals to date				2022 totals	
EV Charging Equipment RCEA REBATE	Electric Vehicles RCEA REBATE	Heat Pumps RCEA REBATE	Equipment & Appliance RCEA REBATE	Residential Services ASSESSMENTS	Non-Res Services ASSESSMENTS
14 approved 	37 approved 	79 approved 4 reserved 	69 approved	114 consultations 90 res kits 	292 Completed 

uploads/2022/12/RCEA-December-2022-Monthly-REport.pdf" in a new tab

Sincerely,
Jesse Noell

From: [Jesse Noell](#)
To: [Lori Taketa](#); [350 Humboldt](#); 350@350.org
Subject: Re: comment for April 27, 2023 meeting
Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 1:17:52 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[Screen Shot 2023-05-01 at 12.38.25 PM.png](#)

Ship vs. Windturbine

The empty ship appears to have nearly sank after taking on water at some point following the collision with the blades.

Who is liable? Ships are commonly run on autopilot with a skeleton crew mostly doing ship maintenance. What additional costs will offshore wind impose on shipping, fishing, and transportation? To what extent should these additional costs be borne by the energy companies who chose to site the hazards on a foggy ocean. Or should shipping, fishing, and transportation assume costs of the hazard, and then where possible pass the externalized costs on to consumers?



On Mon, May 1, 2023 at 9:32 AM Lori Taketa <LTaketa@redwoodenergy.org> wrote:

Hello Mr. Noell,

Thank you very much for your email. Since your comment was received after last Thursday's RCEA Board meeting was adjourned, it will be included as public comment (either for a specific agenda item or as non-agenda item public comment) for the May 25 Board meeting. Your comment will be made available [on RCEA's website](#). Staff will notify the directors and public of your written public comment during the meeting.

Thank you very much for your interest in RCEA and its customer programs.

Best Regards,