



# Lg chemical energy storage 190 kWh

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Back in late 2016, Sunrun announced they'd partnered with LG Chem to offer, along with their solar installations, the manufacturer's new lithium-ion RESU batteries to residential customers. Until they started installing the LG Chem battery, which Sunrun calls their 'Brightbox'; offering, they'd actually been installing rival Tesla's Powerwall.

Is the RESU battery a good option for your energy storage and how does it compare to the Tesla Powerwall - the most well-known storage option on the residential market? We'll answer all those questions, plus a few more!

You might already be familiar with the brand LG 'Life's Good'. They make appliances and other electronics like phones and televisions. Their LG Chem branch is one of the biggest battery manufacturers in the world, selling their lithium-ion batteries to more auto manufacturers than any other company. It's no surprise, then, they've entered the burgeoning energy storage market as well.

By mid-2017, LG Chem had officially entered the US with a few different options for energy storage, including batteries up to 9.8 kilowatt-hours in capacity.

The RESU battery is simply that: a box of batteries and nothing else. There's no inverter (you'll have to add one) and no way to create electricity (that's what your solar panels are for). The batteries are designed for residential energy storage and are available in five different sizes: 3.3 kWh, 6.5 kWh, and 9.8 kWh in low voltage (48 volts) and 7 kWh and 9.8 kWh in high voltage (350-450 volts).

With the average US home using about 30 kWh of electricity each day, a 10-kWh backup system is large enough to use for emergency power, but the smaller options are really only enough for utility bill savings, not backup storage in the event of an outage. That's not a design flaw at all; smaller batteries have their place and other companies (like Enphase) are also putting out small energy storage options for the same reason.

Like many solar batteries today (including the Powerwall), LG Chem uses lithium-ion technology in their RESU batteries. The manufacturer doesn't publicize the batteries' recommended Depth of Discharge or Cycle Life (basically, the details on how much of the battery's storage can be used daily, and how long the battery will last).

Instead, they simply state that they guarantee the batteries will provide 60% of their nameplate capacity at Year 10. So, for example, LG guarantees that the 3.3 kWh battery will still hold 2.6 kWh of electricity by Year



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7, and 1.98 kWh by Year 10. This is a pretty standard warranty, though a bit less than the Tesla Powerwall's 70% guarantee by Year 10.

Using info from other, similar lithium-ion batteries, we can probably assume the RESU has a Depth of Discharge around 80% with a Cycle Life around 3,650 (based on a daily cycle for 10 years). These data points probably just seem like unimportant numbers right now, but we're going to bring them back up when we calculate the battery's cost-effectiveness below.

Unlike the Tesla Powerwall, LG Chem RESU batteries do not have an inverter integrated into the system, so you'll have the additional expense of adding a compatible inverter separately (SMA and SolarEdge are currently the only inverters approved for use with RESU batteries). However, if you get the Brightbox system through Sunrun, they will handle this for you.

Like any energy storage system for grid-connected homes, the RESU batteries are designed to help homeowners save money on their utility bills.

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