United kingdom gravity energy storage

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British start-up Gravitricity secured funds from the UK Department of Business Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to build its second gravity-based storage project. The feasibility study is expected to be finalized by the end of this year.

Gravitricity"s technology is claimed to have a faster response time than lithium-ion storage technology.

Image: Gravitricity

Scottish start-up Gravitricity has secured a ?912,000 grant from the UK Department of Business Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to build a 4 MWh gravity-based storage facility on an unspecified brownfield site in the United Kingdom.

The company completed last summer a 250 kW demonstration project, which was supported by a ?640,000 grant from UK government funder Innovate UK. In this facility, a tower is powered by renewable energy to raise a mass in a 150-1,500 m shaft and discharges the electricity thus “stored” by releasing the mass to rotate the two power generators. The mass used in larger projects can range from 500 to 5,000 tons.

The technology is claimed to have a faster response time than lithium-ion storage technology and to be able to help stabilize electricity networks at 50 Hz by responding to full power demand in less than a second.

In October, Gravitricity also announced it was considering the deployment of its gravity energy storage system in Czechia, where it would be built at the decommissioned Sta??? coal mine in the country"s Moravian Silesian region. The mine consists of six deep sites that could potentially host the storage solution.

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There are numerous “Brownfield” sites everywhere which can’t be used for anything and certainly not to have people on or about those lands.

Making use of such for Energy Storage Systems and other “passive:” functions is certainly a good idea (provided it does not disturb the toxins). In one sense this is recovering the “space” and can also serve as a “capping” over the site pending on the use…

What was the capacity and efficiency of the small-scale demonstration project? It says “250kW” power, but that’s less interesting than its capacity.

Hey Steve, the storage capacity of the pilot project was not specified by the manufacturer.

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