

Within available funds for Energy Storage, the Department is encouraged to launch a new initiative aimed at aggressively driving down costs and improving the performance of a diverse set of gridscale storage technologies. The program will build off the Department's prior research and development efforts in storage; include a suite of technologies capable of providing storage-like functions; and focus R&D efforts on technical, regulatory, and market issues necessary to achieve both existing grid-scale storage cost and performance targets, as well as targets for increased grid reliability, resiliency, or others as appropriate. The Electricity Delivery program is urged to coordinate its efforts with the Office of Science and EERE to ensure this new initiative best leverages the storage work being conducted within the Basic Energy Sciences program of the Office of Science and programs within EERE where appropriate. Low cost grid-scale energy storage technologies are critical to improving grid resiliency, reliability, security, and the successful integration of a broad range of generation sources.

The Committee notes the potential benefits that high power, high capacity batteries can provide for increased energy resilience in the face of adverse events and increasing deployments of intermittent technologies. The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a report on the potential use of next generation, high capacity and high power batteries in our energy system.