The PEAK Coalition:
Battery Energy Storage Systems

Battery energy storage systems (BESS) are arrays of batteries connected to the electric grid that can charge when electricity demand is low and and discharge that energy when demand spikes.

The Benefits

Batteries can save money for electricity customers, especially during times of peak demand.

Batteries increase reliability and flexibility for the city's stressed grid.

Paired with renewable energy, batteries help to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Batteries play a crucial role in retiring expensive and polluting peaker power plants.

If batteries and renewables replace all the peaker plants in the city, customers could save $1 billion in energy costs in just five years.

Safety

New York has one of the most stringent set of battery energy storage system regulations in the country, ensuring the safety of surrounding residents.

The newly updated fire code requires that the system undergo independent engineering peer review, continuous 24/7 monitoring for early fault detection, and coordination with local fire departments for emergency response planning.

Battery certifications ensure that battery cells, modules and packs are tested individually and as a whole to withstand a variety of failure events.

The **NFPA 855** standard ensures that BESS follow local codes, maintain a safe distance from buildings and property lines and have adequate ventilation, fire suppression systems, and emergency responder access.

"Battery Energy Storage Systems, when installed and operated under New York's rigorous and updated safety standards, are safe." -Former FDNY commissioner Thomas Von Essen

Compared to gas

Transporting and burning fossil fuels presents a huge health and financial burden for New Yorkers. Gas leaks cost NYC residents $70 million every year and increase air pollution in the city. In the past fourteen years, there have been 37 explosions from natural gas in the state resulting in 97 injuries, 12 deaths and $30 million in costs. Peaker plants in the city released 1,837,365 tons of CO_2, 1,685 tons of NO_x and 194 tons of SO_x emissions in 2018. Retiring these peakers by 2030 could save $1.16 billion in avoided emissions by 2035 in addition to the $1 billion in energy cost savings. **Batteries can help NYC move away from this dangerous and expensive infrastructure.**

The Point CDC • UPROSE • NYC-EJA • NYLPI • Clean Energy Group