

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 17 July 2026

A chance to turn EU electrification into an industrial opportunity for long-duration energy storage

Flow Batteries Europe (FBE) welcomes the EU **Electrification Action Plan** published today. The plan sets an ambition to grow EU energy storage capacity from around 55 GW in 2026 to 200 GW by 2030 and 400 GW by 2040, and to increase the share of electricity in the EU's final energy use to 32% by 2030 and 46% by 2040, compared to 23% today.

The success of electrification depends on the deployment of sufficient energy storage. Without enough energy storage, rising electrification means wasted wind and solar power, and stalled investments in energy security and independence. In this context, supporting the deployment of both short-duration and long-duration energy storage (LDES) – is essential to meet the EU's electrification objectives.

LDES is not only a solution for our energy independence, it also represents a major industrial opportunity. In a tense geopolitical context, growing domestic capacity in key technologies is of strategic importance. Many LDES technologies can actually produce in Europe and still benefit from a diversified supply chain.

The diversity of energy storage technologies in Europe is also a great strength. Different energy storage technologies with distinct features are required to address different challenges, across days, weeks, or even seasons. For instance, flow batteries excel in cases where longevity, safety, limited space and heavy-cycling capabilities matter, with growing applications for AI data centres and industry.

Importantly, the Electrification Action Plan emphasises the importance of LDES, notably by:

- Highlighting LDES through the Commission's commitment to carry out the Tripartite Agreement on Energy Storage, signed by 22 EU Member States on 26 June. The Agreement includes pledges to deliver 30–35 GW of new storage capacity between 2026 and 2028.
- Committing to assess the EU's long-duration flexibility needs up to 2030, 2040 and 2050, and to identify priority use cases, barriers and investment needs, including for energy-intensive industries and data centres.
- Recognising the need to address LDES as part of the Commission's planned high-level conference on energy storage barriers and solutions.

But these commitments for energy storage must materialise in concrete results to foster LDES in Europe. Accordingly, FBE calls on the European Commission to support the Member States in:

- **Establishing revenue certainty mechanisms for LDES**, crucial for industries to take it up.
- **Enabling lead markets for LDES technologies** (e.g. faster grid connection for grid-friendly assets).

“Europe has been playing catch-up in the global race for short-duration batteries and solar PV, and we should recognise that we now have the opportunity to start on time in this new race for long-duration storage,” said Aurélien Ballagny, Head of Policy at Flow Batteries Europe.

“The follow-up to the Electrification Action Plan is the moment for the Commission to take concrete steps to boost long-duration storage in Europe. Done right, this is as much a matter of energy security as an industrial opportunity for the EU.”

About Flow Batteries Europe:

Flow Batteries Europe (FBE) is an international non-profit association representing the flow battery supply chain and aims at promoting the role of flow batteries to reach European decarbonisation and energy security objectives.

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