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# Agriculture Applications of Batteries



Prepared by – Charles Luo Date – 25 August 2019

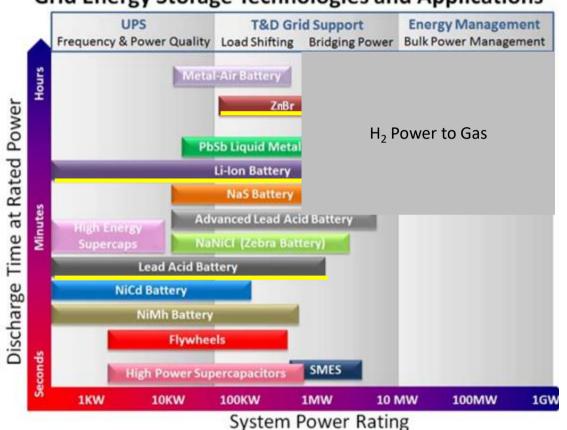


## Why talk about batteries

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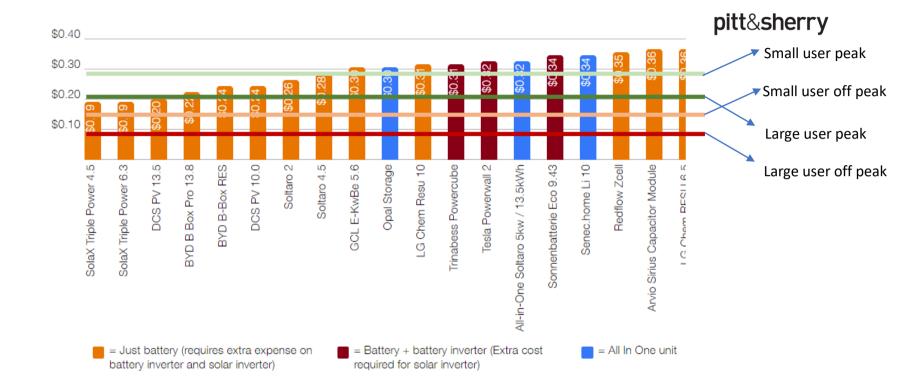
https://onestepoffthegrid.com.au/farmers-flock-solar-battery-storage-power-costs-bite/



### Grid Energy Storage Technologies and Applications pitt&sherry

https://www.mpoweruk.com/grid\_storage.htm

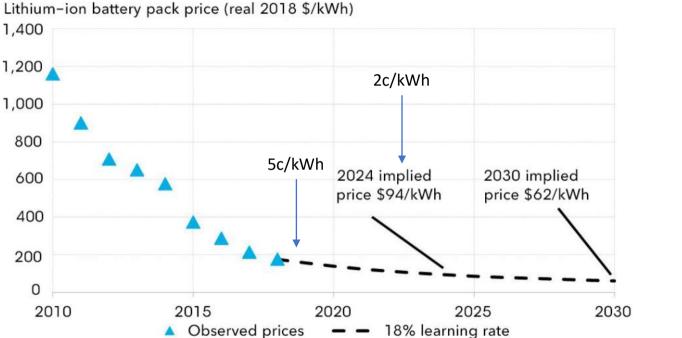
From 2005



https://www.solarquotes.com.au/battery-storage/comparison-table/ Typical solar PV only is between \$0.06 - \$0.10 per kWh over the warrantied period Updated August 19<sup>th</sup> 2019

#### Lithium-ion battery price outlook

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Source: BloombergNEF

https://about.bnef.com/blog/behind-scenes-take-lithium-ion-battery-prices/

# Recent Effective Battery Applications

- Standalone systems, particularly in WA due to the size of the grid
- SA due to the potential \$6000 subsidy from the state government
- Moree, NSW for irrigation and off grid uses mainly
- Better utilisation of renewable energy\*

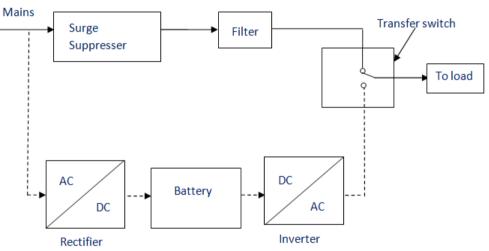
- Off grid applications with solar
  - Power to remote sites
  - Higher energy infrastructure costs offset by lower land and compliance costs

- · Diesel replacement in remote areas
  - Reduction in diesel transport costs

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- Reduction in maintenance costs
- Mitigate large grid connection costs

- Supply stabilisation and UPS (more than a standard battery system)
  - Growing importance for robot dairies
  - Provides power to equipment before generators can start



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Figure 1

- Peak demand
  management
  - In presence of high demand charges and/or infrequent but high peaks
  - offset main supply upgrades

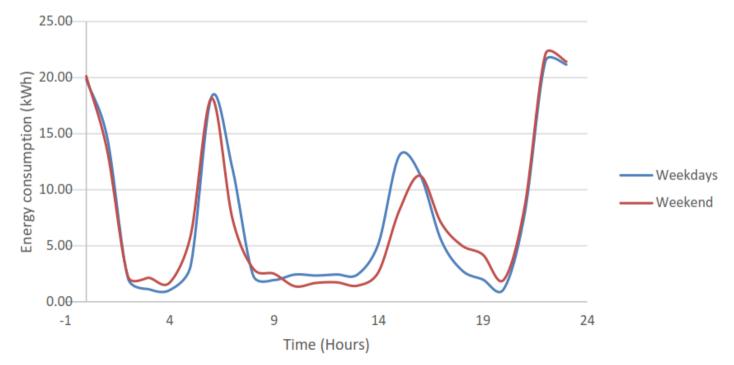
#### **Typical Daily Profile** — Demand w/o Battery — Demand w/ Battery 700.0 600.0 500.0 400.0 300.0 200.0 100.0 0.0 12:00 1:00 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00 6:00 7:00 8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00 12:00 1:00 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00 6:00 7:00 8:00 9:00 10:00 11:00 12:00

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## Uneconomical battery applications

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Energy consumption profile - January



## Uneconomical battery applications

- Grid connected renewable storage in the presence of a feed in tariff
  - Better to export excess solar production instead of spending capex on batteries to store it
  - Packaged solar + battery deals
- Off peak storage for peak use
- Grid independence
- Mitigation of frequent demand peaks
  - A single demand event can be charged across a full year, regardless of frequency
  - Typical cycle life of lead acid is 300, lithium is 4000, flow batteries 30,000+

## Key criteria for making a decision

- Fully quantify other cost savings/deferred expenses in addition to usage rates
  - Diesel transport costs
  - Grid extension costs
  - Transformer upgrade costs
  - On farm benefits
- Availability of solar and current price tariff
  - In most cases, accepting a feed in tariff (even if it is low) is better than using batteries
- The system needs to be designed specifically for your farm!

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