

Energy Storage – Clean Energy When You Want It

The Clean Energy Financing Act of 2011: Benefits to the Energy Storage Industry

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee approved S. 1510, co-sponsored by Chairman Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) and Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), a bill that creates a Clean Energy Deployment Administration (CEDA) to finance the development and deployment of innovative breakthrough clean energy technologies. CEDA directly addresses the primary challenge in developing innovative energy technologies – obtaining adequate to finance promising ideas from inception, to small pilot projects, to large commercial scale applications. The legislation would provide critical and needed support for the energy storage industry:

- **Finance mechanisms are key to market penetration through private investment. CEDA will reduce perceived risk for investors in energy storage.**

While energy storage technologies are proven to be efficient, clean resources, the investment community views them as higher risk than conventional technologies. This bill creates mechanisms that help allay that risk so that the technologies are more attractive to lenders and other investors.

- **Finance mechanisms can move technologies from laboratories to scale deployment. CEDA will help move energy storage technologies from pilot demonstration to scale manufacturing.**

Energy storage technologies have been tested by national laboratories and universities, and deployed by utilities and regional transmission operators in pilot demonstrations. A commitment to market creation is critical in order to build manufacturing plants that will take these projects from pilot phase to scale deployment. CEDA slashes the “scale up” risk for debt providers so that first plant may be built.

- **Market products can provide more technology choices for a sustainable economy and energy security. CEDA provides tools that allow for choice of technologies, including energy storage, which will make our electric grid more secure, reliable, and clean.**

Energy storage technologies have been considered “game changers” to maximize the potential of renewable energy resources. Energy storage can actually enhance the efficiency of any energy resource and should be considered key assets for a more reliable grid. These secondary market products will allow far more choices on the grid to meet our national energy goals and become more secure in our energy resources.