RENEWABLE ENERGY ORDINANCE UPDATE

Renewable Energy Technologies Definitions

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

BESS are electrochemical devices that charge, or collect, energy from the grid or a generation facility, store that energy, and then discharge that energy at a later time to provide electricity or other grid services.



Ground-Mounted Utility-Scale Solar Facilities

A device or devices affixed to the ground and any accessory equipment or structures that converts solar energy into electrical or thermal energy primarily for off-site use.





Utility-Scale Wind Energy Facility

A device or devices consisting of a tower or towers, a wind turbine or wind turbines, and any accessory equipment or structures which converts wind energy into electrical energy primarily for off-site use or exceeds a rated capacity of 50 kilowatts. Such facility may be affixed to either the ground or to a structure.



Green Hydrogen Production

Hydrogen can be produced in a variety of ways, but not all of them are considered 'clean' energy. Hydrogen can be produced via a process called electrolysis: splitting hydrogen and oxygen from water molecules in a unit called an electrolyzer, which is operated by electricity (and heat, in some technolgoies). When the electricity used to conduct electrolysis is renewable, it is considered 'Green Hydrogen'.



Other Helpful Terms:

Battery	One or more cells connected together electrically in series, parallel, or both, to provide the required operating voltage and current levels.
Carbon Neutral	Balancing of carbon emissions by offsetting them through carbon removal (ex. cap and trade)
Distributed Energy Resources	Decentralized sources of energy that are smaller than utility-scale energy sources and can be aggregated to provide the power necessary to meet regular demand.
Net-Zero	When the amount of all greenhouse gases produced by human activities is balanced by the amount removed from the atmosphere.
Renewable Energy	Energy coming from resources that are naturally replenished, such as sunlight, wind, tides, waves, bioenergy, hydrogen, and geothermal.

