

Development of a Global Atlas of Off-River Pumped Hydro Storage

NVISION

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Solar PV and wind leading world's new generation capacity







World per capita renewable installations





On-river pumped hydro storage: Tumut 3

Head: 151 m Water volume: 6 Gigalitres Combined reservoir area: 1936 Ha 1.5 GW power rating



Off-river pumped hydro

Head: 500 m Water volume: 6 Gigalitres Combined reservoir area: 105 Ha 1 GW power rating (6 hours)

Lower reservoir



© 2018 Good



Upper reservoir





Pumped hydro atlas

- Off-the-shelf, lowest-cost technology
 - 180 GW already installed
 - No arm-waving about large future cost reductions
- 100-1,000 times larger storage than batteries



- However, location driven by local topography
- Concerns regarding large-scale hydro development

Pumped Storage Examples, Lu et al, 2018



Fig. 2. Cross sections of typical dry-gully (a) and turkey's nest (b) sites.





PHES Site searching

Identify reservoirs locations

- Model watershed
- Simulate 5 -100m dams

Pair reservoirs

- 100-800m head
- Adjust both dam heights for storage target (e.g. 5 GWh)

Apply cost model

- "A" to "E" ranking (or reject) Key information recorded
 - Reservoir volume and area, dam line and volume, reservoir shape file, etc







Cost model

Model developed for Australian Government funded project

- Reservoir pair
- Water conveyance (penstock or tunnel)
- Power house (pump/turbine, generator, switchyard)
- Services (roads, water, transmission)

Key relationships (head, power, separation, dam volume) used for global search ranking





Reservoir Pair

- Clay core rockfill dam 10-100 m high
 - Material borrowed from reservoir
- 3:1 batter slope
- 2 m deep foundation excavation
- Crest width: 8 m
- Concrete spillway designed to cope with flood or pumping (whichever is larger)







Conveyance - Powerhouse - Switchyard

- Tunnel
 - Vertical shaft and horizontal tunnels
- Excavated powerhouse.
 - Machine hall, transformer hall, electrical equipment tunnels, access/construction tunnels, cable and ventilation tunnel
 - Excavation, stabilization (shotcrete, rock bolts) and pavement
- Twin pump-turbine/motor-generator, variable speed.
- Inlet valves, transformers, cranes, ancillary mechanical and electrical equipment, switchyard



>600,000 unique sites with 23,000 TWh of storage







Open online access to full database



http://re100.eng.anu.edu.au/global

https://nationalmap.gov.au/renewables/#share=s-oDPMo1jDBBtwBNhD

Pumped Hydro Sites – 15 GWh, 18h - UK





Image credit: Data61 hosting and Bing Map background www.energypolicy.co.uk

Pumped Hydro Sites – UK

195 sites with 6047 GWh

of which

- Class A 0 GWh
- Class B 500 GWh
- Class C 1355 GWh
- Class D 992 GWh
- Class E 3200 GWh

Requirement for 100% RE \sim 20 x 70 = 1400 GWh

Pumped Hydro Sites – Examples Scotland



Pumped Hydro Sites – Examples Wales



Existing and selected proposed interconnectors



Image credit: UK-EU ELECTRICITY INTERCONNECTION:.., E3G, January 2019 www.energypolicy.co.uk 18





Summary

- Variable renewables growing rapidly
- Pumped hydro well-placed to support transition
- Global off-river atlas developed
 - 600,000 sites with >23,000 TWh storage
 - Full visualisation from global to local scale
- Including for UK
 - 195 sites with ~ 6 TWh, 6000 GWh storage
 - Requirement for 100% RE ~ 20 x 70 = 1400 GWh



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Questions?



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ENVISIONING

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