

Energy storage regulations ottawa



Overview

A city committee passed new regulations Thursday that lay out the ground rules for companies looking to build battery energy storage facilities in Ottawa, but residents are split on whether the new rules go too far — or not far enough. BESS is an emerging technology using batteries and associated equipment to store excess energy from the electrical grid, which can then discharge. The official plan and zoning amendments set policy direction for siting BESS within Ottawa's rural and urban areas. The City of Ottawa's Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee approved the changes for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), set to guide the land use. Battery storage has become an essential commodity for both personal and professional use and for a range of applications such as mobile phones, vehicles, backup power for sump pumps, storing energy from residential solar panels to Tesla Powerwalls, and larger systems supporting businesses and.

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Battery storage site land rules reviewed by committee

The City of Ottawa's Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee has voted to approve changes to the city's Official Plan that would set out the land use policy direction for building battery

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Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Provisions

In 2025, the City of Ottawa established official plan and zoning provisions for battery energy storage uses in accordance with new Official Plan policy.

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Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment Proposal Summary

Both BESS facilities are required to comply with all provincial and municipal regulations and associated approvals and permit processes, before development can begin.

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Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Frequently Asked Questions

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The battery storage units associated with a BESS facility are subject to Planning Act requirements. Therefore, specific land use policy guidance is required to support BESS in Ottawa.

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Ottawa residents split on new rules for energy storage facilities

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City approves zoning of battery storage building

The City of Ottawa's Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee approved the changes for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), set to guide the land use policy direction for building battery

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OTTAWA Committee approves regulations for battery energy storage ...

The Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee today (Jan 23) approved Official Plan and zoning amendments to



establish land-use policy for siting Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in Ottawa.

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Ottawa approves new regulation for battery storage

A city committee has passed new regulations establishing land use policy for companies looking to build battery energy storage systems (BESS) in Ottawa.

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Regulations approved for battery energy storage systems in Ottawa

The Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee in Ottawa approved Official Plan and zoning amendments to establish land-use policy for siting Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

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