Special Issue

Hydrogen Energy Systems for Energy Storage Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

This special issue focuses on hydrogen-based energy systems, paying particular attention to applications where the hydrogen system is used to store energy. Alternative low-cost and efficient ways to store heat or electricity produced by renewable sources, such as wind power, concentrating solar power plants and photovoltaic systems, are critical for large scale market penetration of renewable energy systems. A typical example of hydrogen-based energy storage is given by regenerative fuel cell applications, where the hydrogen, produced by electrolysis driven by renewable source electricity (e.g. solar photovoltaic or wind power electricity), is reused in a fuel cell to produce electric power again. High temperature thermal energy storage applications see, for instance, the adoption of paired metal hydride materials, which can store high temperature thermal energy, produced through concentrating solar power plants. The stored thermal energy is released later, to drive electric power plants (e.g. steam power plants or supercritical CO2 Brayton plants) when the direct solar power is unavailable.

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