



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

# Zinc & Lead Batteries\*

\*( Zn, Pb, Fe, Al multi-valent-based batteries )

*PRESENTED BY*

Timothy N. Lambert

DOE-OE Peer Review, Bellevue, Washington, August 7, 2024.

SAND2024-10242C



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## Session **OVERVIEW – Zinc & Lead Batteries (Multi-valent)\***



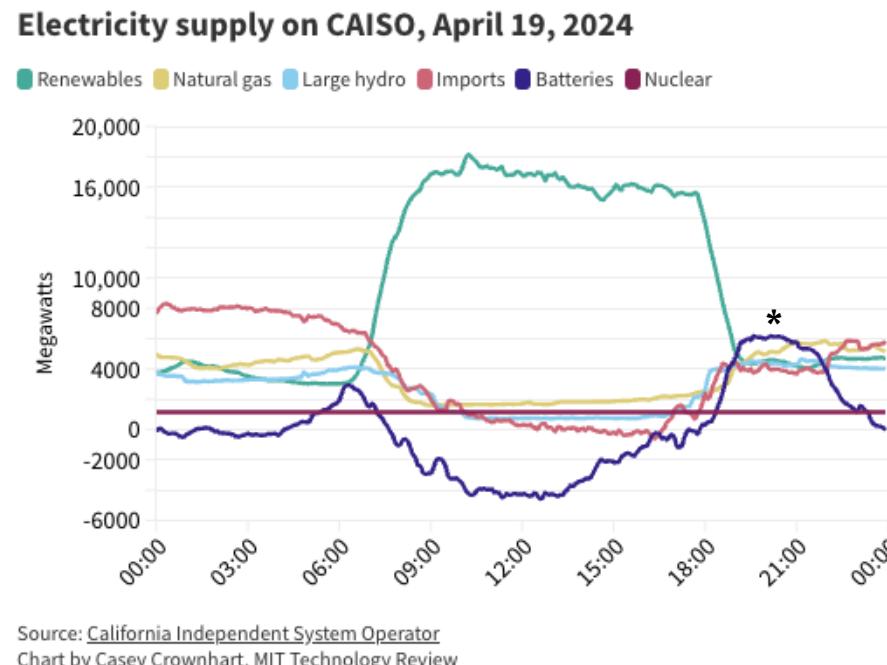
*OE supports RESEARCH&DEVELOPMENT needs of battery chemistries that can impact  
Grid Storage: Reliable and resilient electricity system*

10:05 - 10:20 AM	Program Overview / Zinc & Lead Batteries	Timothy Lambert, SNL
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# Battery-based Grid Storage

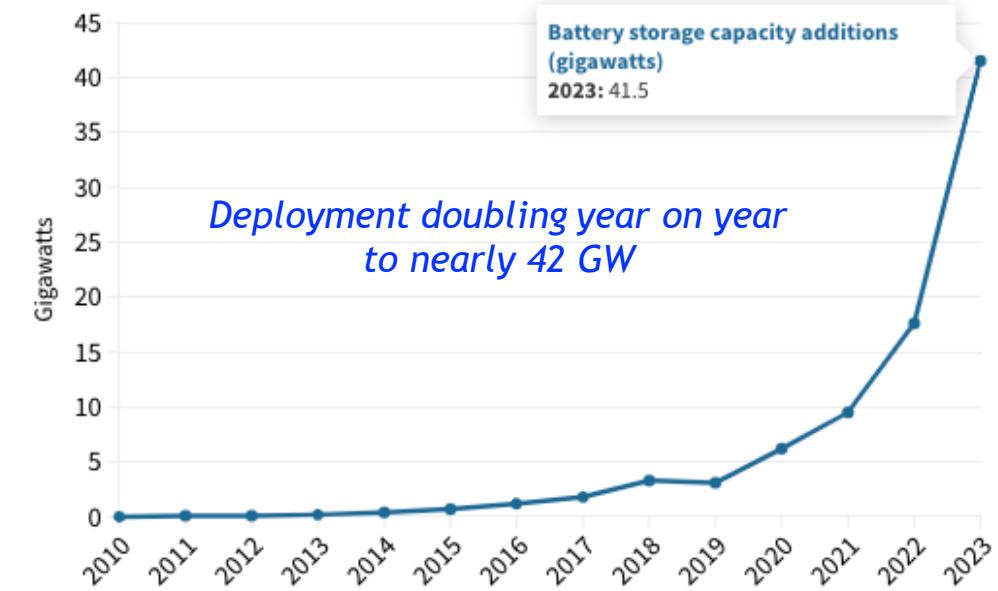


**“Battery storage in the power sector was the fastest-growing commercial energy technology on the planet in 2023”**



*International Energy Agency report calls batteries a “master key”*

## Global battery storage capacity additions, 2010-2023



**“Batteries are starting to show exactly how they'll play a crucial role on the grid”**

\* *On April 16, (2024) for the first time, batteries were the single greatest power source on the grid in California during part of the early evening, just as solar fell off for the day.*

*10 GW in CA*  
*Playing a part in balancing the grid*  
*(2019 – 1.9 GW on entire grid, ~ 1.1% total)*

# Battery-based Grid Storage



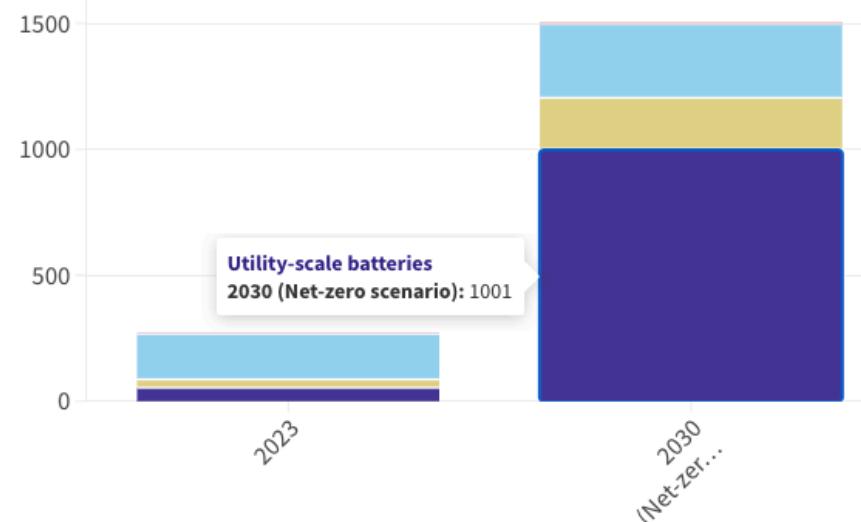
“We need to build a lot more storage”

## Global installed energy storage capacity

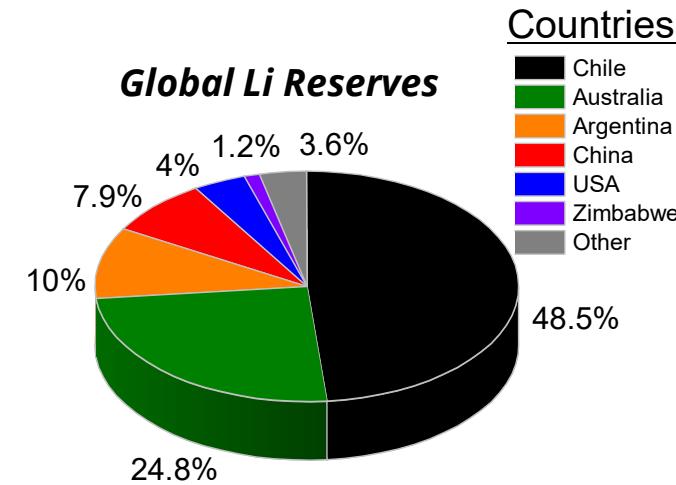
Projected energy storage required to reach net-zero emissions by midcentury

Utility-scale batteries   Behind-the-meter batteries   Pumped hydro   Other storage

Gigawatts



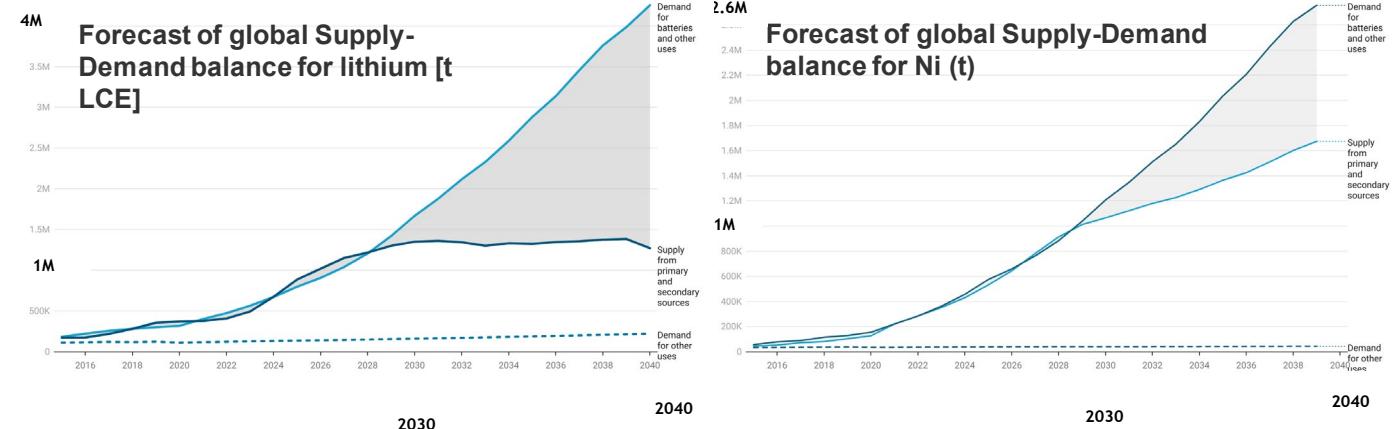
Source: International Energy Agency • Chart by Casey Crownhart, MIT Technology Review



Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2021

## Lithium supply chain issues by ~ 2030 ?

<https://rmis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/analysis-of-supply-chain-challenges-49b749>



<https://www.technologyreview.com> from May 2, 2024

<https://www.iea.org/reports/batteries-and-secure-energy-transitions>

## Electrochemical Grid Storage 'Requirements'



- Low cost: < \$100/kWh,
- LDES: Levelized Cost of Storage by 2030: ~ \$0.05/kWh (> 10 h discharge)
- Low-risk components: earth-abundant, minimally processed, available supply chain (in US?)
- Easy to manufacture - roll to roll manufacturing
- Long cycle life: Tens of years of operation
- Safe
- High energy density \*\*

$$\text{Energy} = \text{Voltage (V)} \times \text{Capacity (mAh/cm}^2\text{)}$$

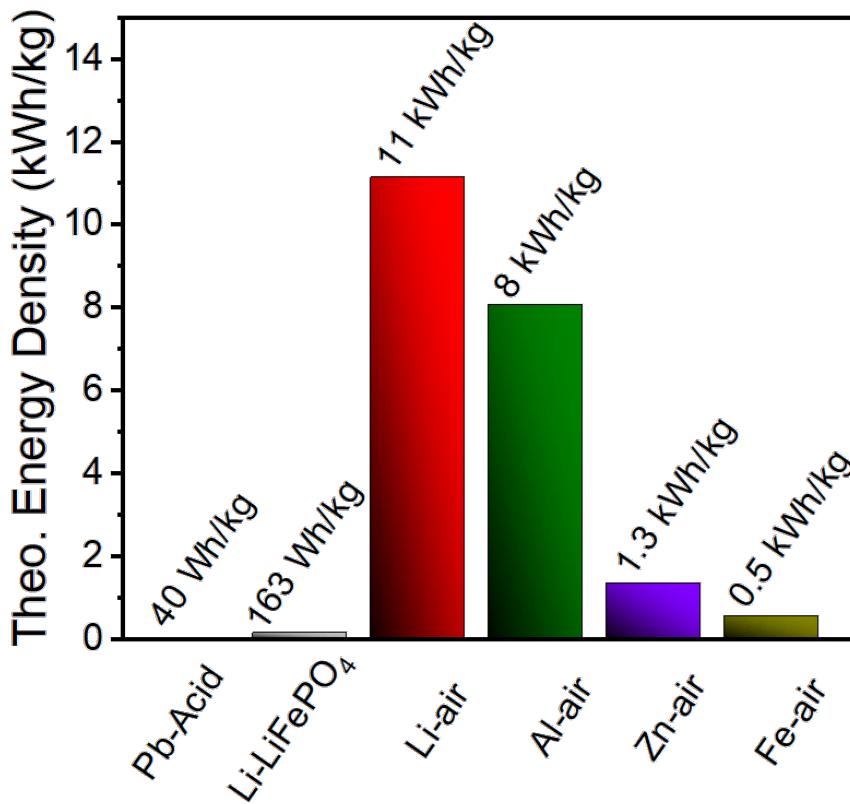
*Lower Voltage Systems Require will higher Capacities to be Competitive*

*Zn/MnO<sub>2</sub> : 15 mAh/cm<sup>2</sup> to achieve similar energy density to a lithium cobalt oxide (LCO) battery with 1-5 mAh/cm<sup>2</sup> active loading*

# A case for multi-valent Zn, Pb, Fe, Al-based batteries



Niagara Falls: 60,000 MWh/day



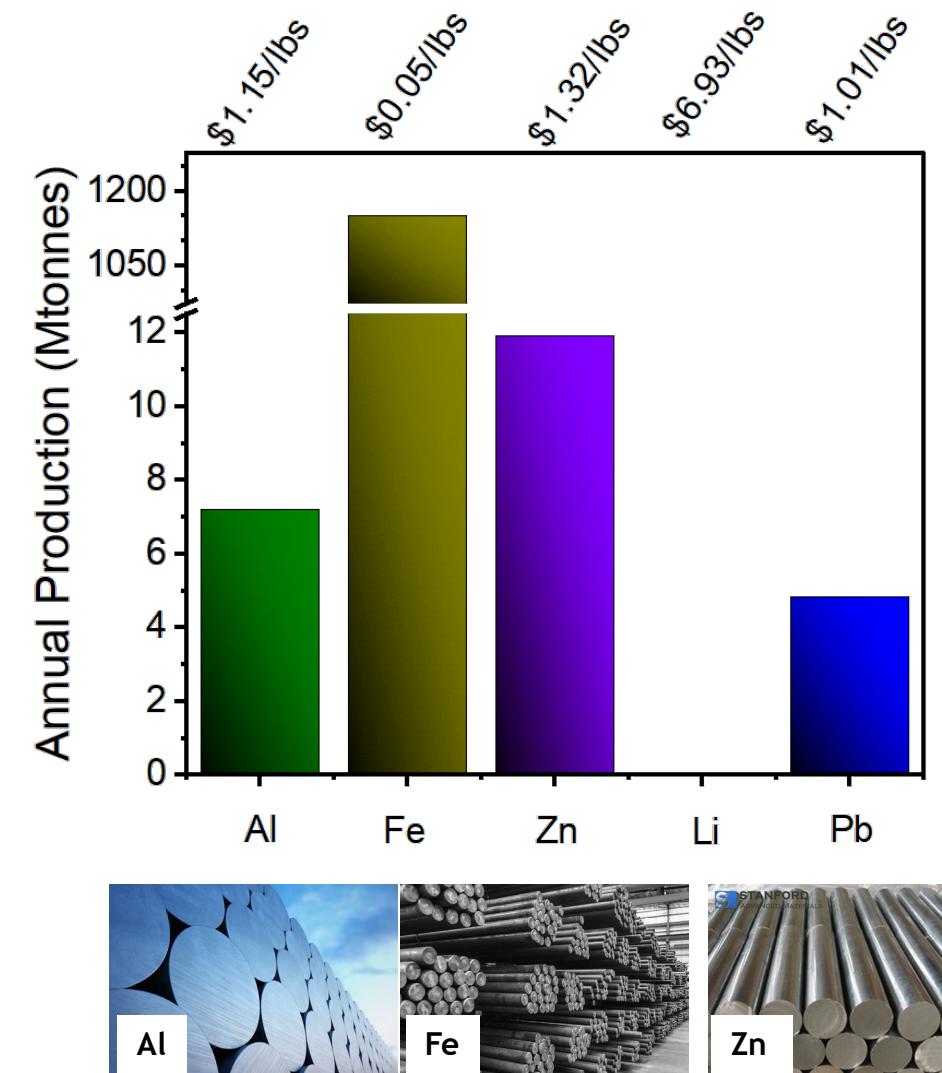
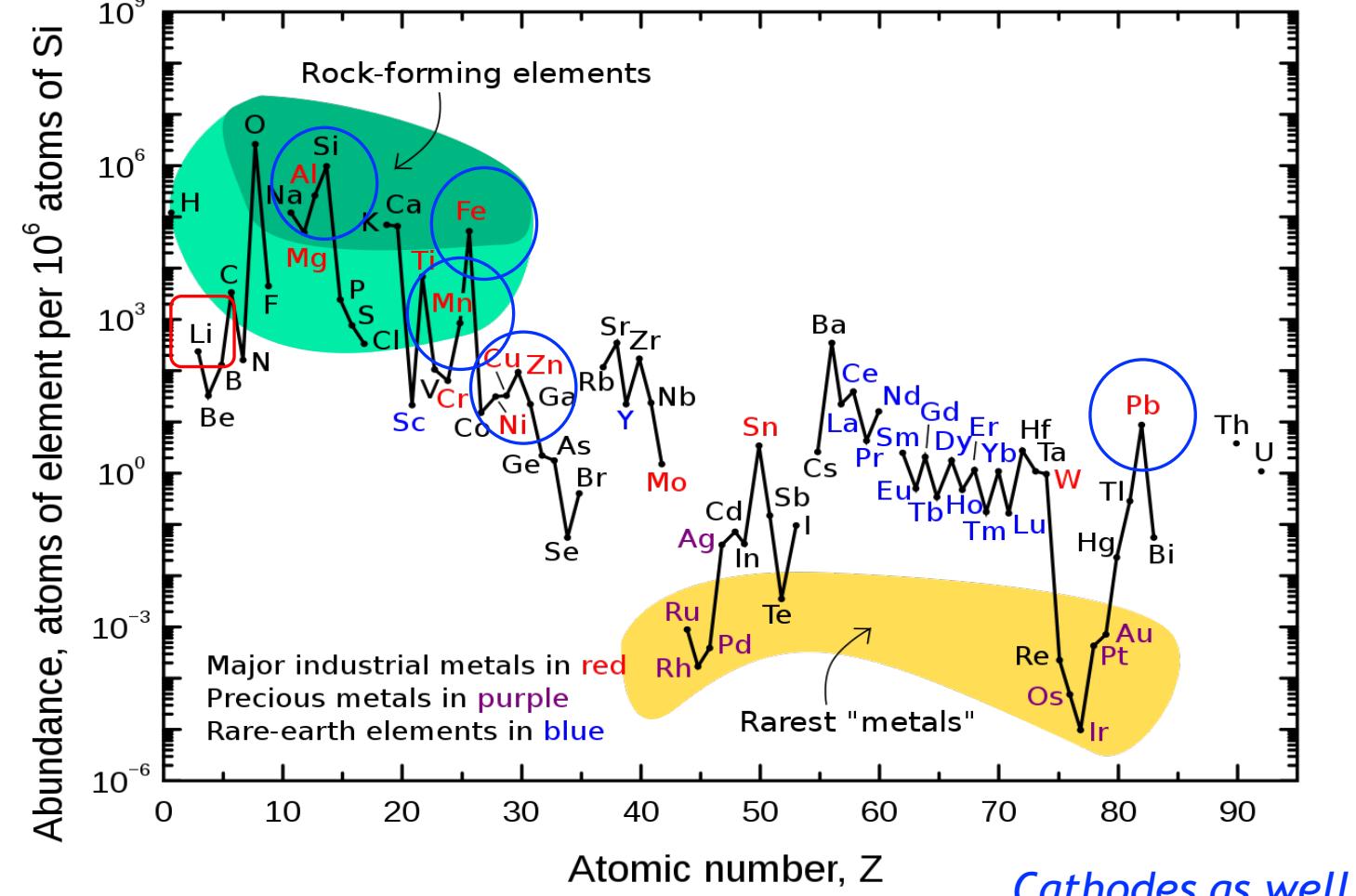
$1^0$  - Zn/MnO<sub>2</sub>  
(400 Wh/L ~ \$20/kWh)  
Wikipedia, user Aney, 2005

Anode (*)	Cost \$M	GHG Produced (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> )	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Mass (tonnes)
Zinc	93	1.5	6,200	44,000
Lithium	370	6	10,200	5,300
Lead	230	4	12,000	120,000

# A case for multi-valent Zn, Pb, Fe, Al-based batteries



*Low Risk Materials that are readily available at low cost*



# Rechargeable Zn-based Batteries



- Low-cost, high energy density, safety, and global availability have made Zn-based batteries attractive for more than 220 years!
- Diverse Zn-batteries offer a range of properties to meet growing demand across varied applications:
  - ✓ Renewables integration (including microgrids)
  - ✓ Backup power (assurance for data centers, telecom, etc.)
  - ✓ Grid stability and resilience
  - ✓ Behind-the-meter applications for residential and commercial applications (Lower energy cost, power quality, etc.)

## Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub>



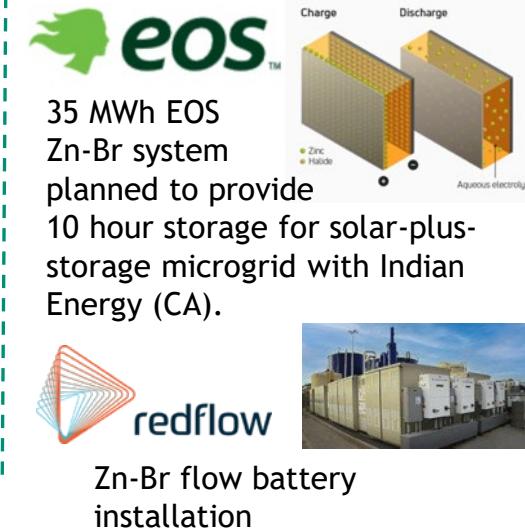
## Zn-Ni



## Zn-Air



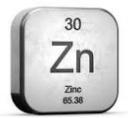
## Zn-Br



## Zn-ion

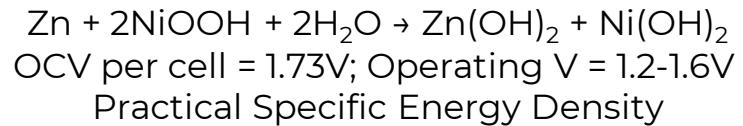


# Rechargeable Zn-based Batteries



- Low-cost, high energy density, safety, and global availability have made Zn-based batteries attractive for more than 220 years!

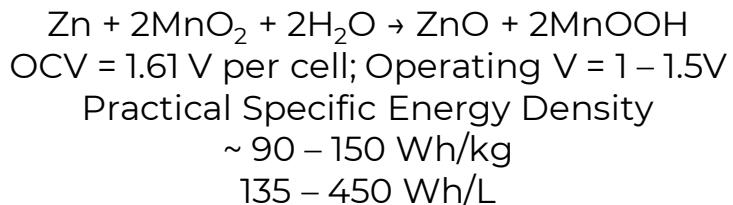
## Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub>



Practical Specific Energy Density

~ 70 – 150 Wh/kg

200 – 450 Wh/L



## Zn-Ni



OCV per cell = 1.73V; Operating V = 1.2-1.6V

Practical Specific Energy Density

~ 70 – 150 Wh/kg

200 – 450 Wh/L

## Zn-Air



OCV = 1.65 V per cell; Operating V = 0.9 – 1.4V

Practical Specific Energy Density

~ 100 – 400 Wh/kg

135 – 1000 Wh/L

*High utilization of capacity*  
*Bidirectional oxygen electrocatalysis remain challenging*

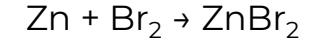
## Zn-Br



35 MWh EOS Zn-Br system planned to provide 10 hour storage for solar-plus-storage microgrid with Indian Energy (CA).



Zn-Br flow battery installation

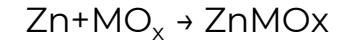
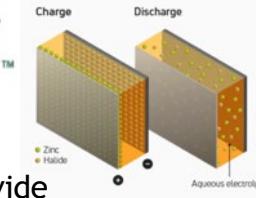


OCV = 1.85 V per cell; Operating V = 1 – 1.8V

Practical Specific Energy Density

~ 65 – 75 Wh/kg

60 – 70 Wh/L



OCV = 1.60 V per cell; Operating V = 1 – 1.5V

Practical Specific Energy Density

~ 80 – 150 Wh/kg

200 – 450 Wh/L

# Rechargeable Zn-based Batteries



- Low-cost, high energy density, safety, and global availability have made Zn-based batteries attractive for more than 220 years!

## Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub>



Matt Fayette, PNNL

Latest Developments in Mild Acidic Zinc Battery at PNNL

Amalie Frischknecht, SNL

Molecular Modeling of Gas and Ion Transport in Alkaline Battery Electrolytes

Gautam Yadav, *Urban Electric Power*

Progress with Manufacturing and Deploying Zn|MnO<sub>2</sub> Batteries for Grid-Scale Applications

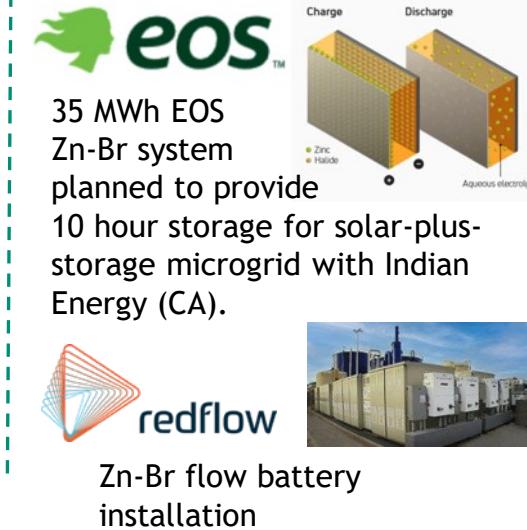
## Zn-Ni



## Zn-Air



## Zn-Br



## Zn-ion



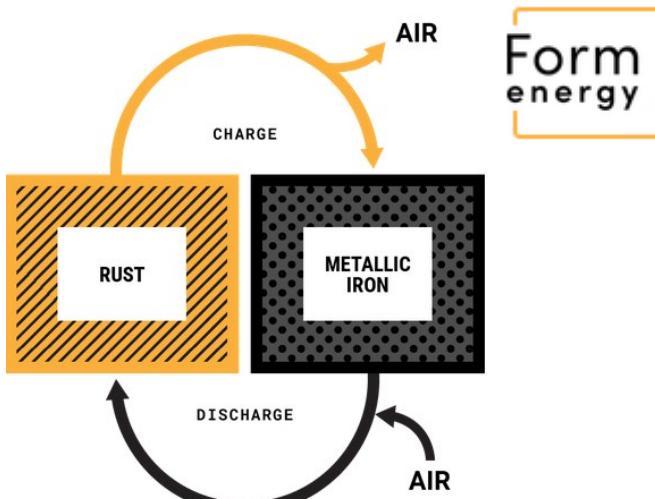
# Rechargeable Fe or Al-based Batteries



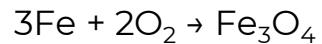
- Commercialization of Fe and Al batteries
- Long Duration Energy Storage Applications - economical with earth abundant materials

## Fe-air

(The 100 h battery)



Forms Rust, Electrochemical 'un-rusting' utilizing excess PV/Wind



Theo V = 1.28 V per cell

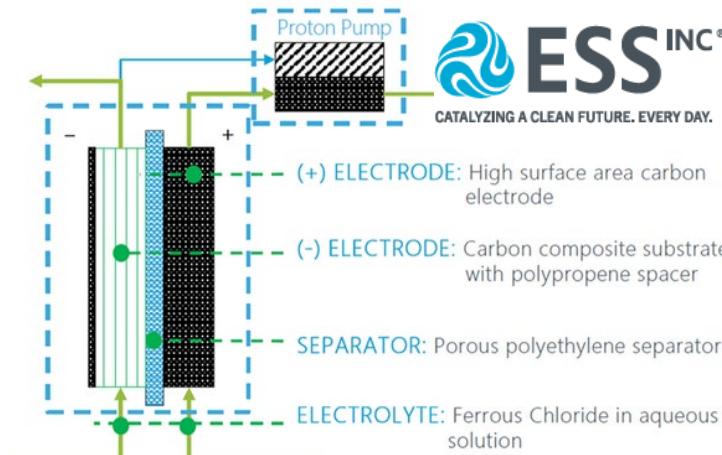
Practical Specific Energy Density  
~ 50-75 Wh/kg

HER upon charge, poor discharge rate due to  $\text{Fe(OH)}_2$ , air cathode ?

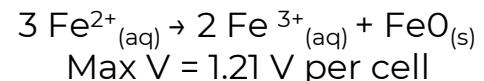
<https://doi.org/10.1002/cplu.201402238>

<https://formenergy.com/technology/battery-technology/>

## Fe Flow



Based on Ferrous and Ferric chloride  
**"ESS iron flow chemistry delivers 25 years or more with no capacity fade or degradation."**



Practical Specific Energy Density  
~ 20 Wh/L

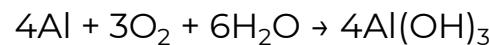
Crossover, Air oxidation, pH, plating

<https://essinc.com/iron-flow-chemistry/>

## Al-air (& Zn-air)



Phinergy launches its new automated production line, capacity will reach up to 10,000 backup systems per year



OCV = 1.2 V per cell; ~ 0.7 V in saltwater

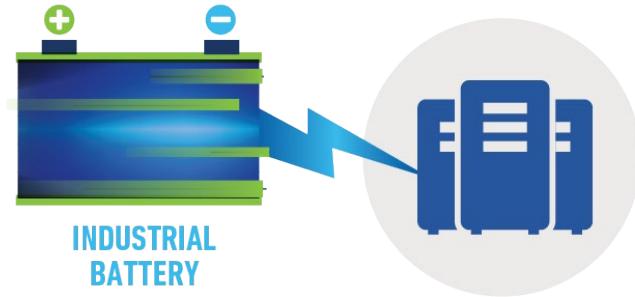
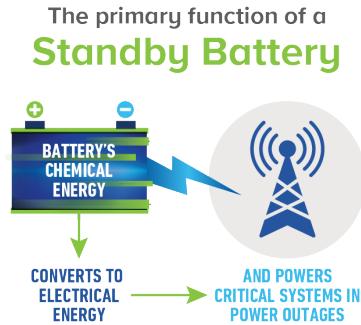
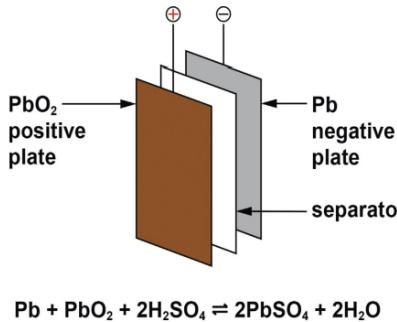
Practical Specific Energy Density  
~ 1300 Wh/kg

Earth Abundant Multi-valent Materials for Energy Storage  
Stephen Percival, SNL

<https://phinergy.com/>

# Rechargeable Pb-based Batteries

- First invented in 1859, large industry - (Provide about 45% of the world's rechargeable power)\*  
\$52.1 billion in 2022
- Large-format lead-acid designs are widely used for storage in backup power supplies in cell phone towers, high-availability emergency power systems like hospitals, and stand-alone power systems



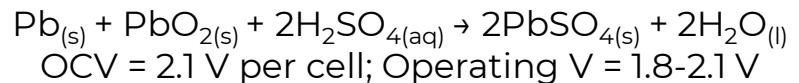
[\\*https://battery council.org/](https://battery council.org/)

Successful recycling program

Improve energy density, low temperature performance, cycle life, charging efficiency, rates



Installed 2012, Lead-based Ultra-battery used for frequency regulation at Lyon Station, Pennsylvania  
3.6 MW power capability



Practical Specific Energy Density  
~ 35-40 Wh/kg  
~ 100 Wh/L

Material Design to Enable Pb Acid Batteries for Long Duration Energy Storage Tim Fister, ANL

# Storage Innovations 2030 – Technology Strategy Assessments



Storage Innovations 2030 (SI 2030) goal is a program that helps the Department of Energy to meet Long-Duration Storage Shot targets.

Precompetitive Energy Storage  
Technology Liftoff

These targets are to achieve 90% cost reductions by 2030 for technologies that provide 10 hours or longer of energy storage.

On July 19, 2023, DOE released a series of technical reports summarizing and analyzing the results from the SI 2030 stakeholder engagement process, including [SI Flight Paths](#) and [SI Framework](#), as detailed in the Methodology report.

These reports are opportunities to explore promising RD&D pathways to substantially lower the costs of long-duration energy storage.

Energy Storage  
Demonstration and Validation

*Released July 19, 2023, DOE*

- [Methodology Report](#)
- [Lithium-ion Batteries Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Lead-acid Batteries Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Flow Batteries Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Zinc Batteries Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Sodium Batteries Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Pumped Storage Hydropower Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Compressed-Air Energy Storage Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Thermal Energy Storage Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Supercapacitors Technology Strategy Assessment](#)
- [Hydrogen Storage Technology Strategy Assessment](#)



# Technology Liftoff: LDES: Pathways to LCOS of \$0.05/kWh



**ESGC: To enable long-duration energy storage technologies through durable research partnerships**

**Selections Announced April 8, 2024**



**“Pre-competitive R&D”** includes activities that are of interest to multiple or all entities in the partnership. Such activities should propel an entire technology industry forward, and the outputs of this work should provide value to all participating members of the partnership.

The following projects have been selected:

• **Newlab, LLC**

- Project Title: *Enabling high-capacity Zinc utilization through electrode and electrolyte fundamentals*
- Federal share: \$4,992,570

• **Battery Council International**

- Project Title: *Consortium for Lead Battery Leadership in LDES*
- Federal share: \$4,972,746

• **Clean Tech Strategies LLC**

- Project title: *Pre-Competitive Research & Development to Accelerate the Maturation of Flow Battery Technologies into Cost-Effective Long Duration Energy Storage*
- Federal share: \$5,000,000

# POSTERS – Zinc & Lead Batteries



*OE supports RESEARCH&DEVELOPMENT needs of battery chemistries that can impact  
Grid Storage: Reliable and resilient electricity system*

Stabilizing Zn Anodes by Molecular Interface Engineering with Amphiphilic Triblock Copolymer

Xingbo Li, WVU

Mapping electrode and acid speciation in lead batteries using powder X-ray diffraction

Tiffany Kinnibrugh, ANL

Interrogation of Pb-acid battery performance using ultrasonic techniques

Tim Officer, UC

Investigation of Calcium Zincate ( $\text{Ca}[\text{Zn}(\text{OH})_3]_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) Cycling Performance  
for Rechargeable Alkaline Zinc Batteries

Patrick Yang, CCNY

Sr-doped barites for enhanced nucleation in lead-acid batteries

Colin Campbell, PNNL

Zn-Air Batteries for Long-Duration Energy Storage

Ruhul Amin, ORNL

Inhibiting the Formation of Zinc Hydroxy Sulfate for High-Performance Aqueous Zn Batteries  
by stabilizing the pH of electrolyte

Wonkwang Lim, PNNL

Flowing Zinc-Air Batteries Enabled by Nickel Sulfoselenide Oxygen Electrocatalysts

Bryan Wygant, SNL

Electrochemical Cycling of Zinc in Mildly Acidic, Acetate-Based Electrolytes for Zinc-ion  
Batteries

Debayon Dutta, CCNY

# PROJECT CONTACTS



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## Sandia Team



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Amalie Frischknecht



David Arnot



Rachel Habing



Ciara Wright



Stephen Percival

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



AND  
OUR MANY COLLABORATORS!



## Session **OVERVIEW – Zinc & Lead Batteries**



*OE supports RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT needs of battery chemistries that can impact  
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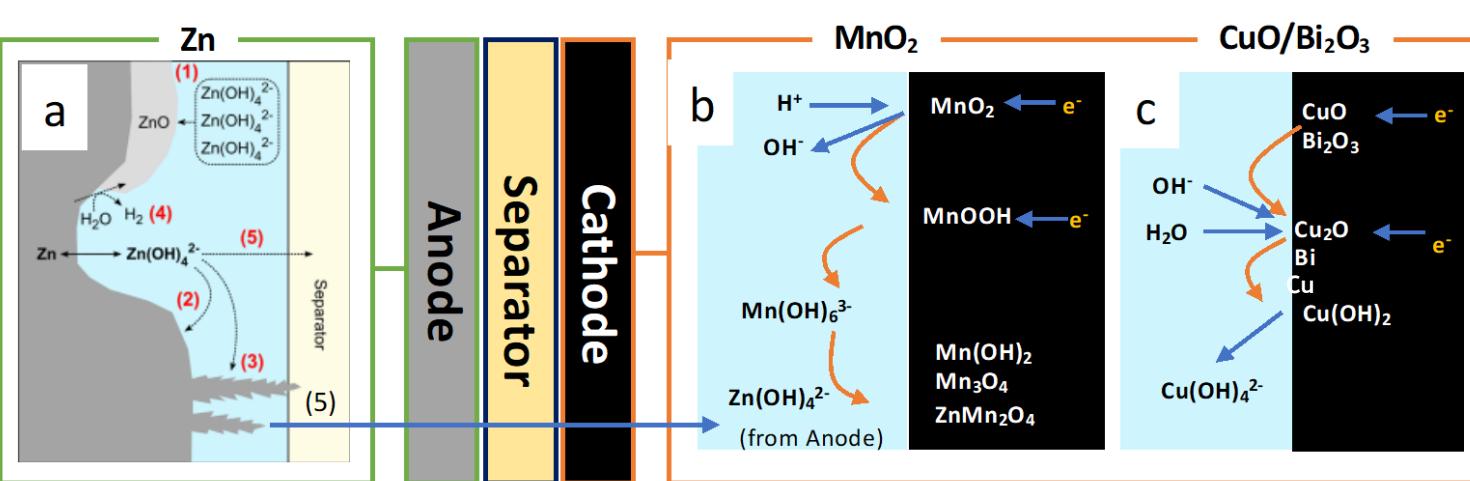
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# DOE OE: Low Cost Aqueous Batteries based on Zinc

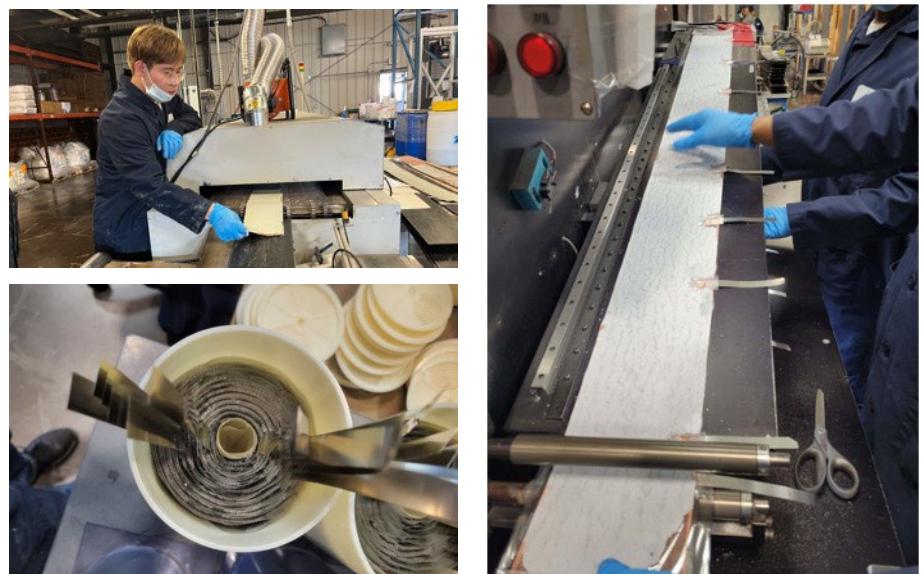


Program Objective: Develop the understanding, materials, methods, components & technologies to enable low cost Zn-based batteries for grid and long duration energy storage

- Zinc-based batteries offer an energy dense, safe and readily manufacturable technology
- OE Funded Project collaboratively investigates new materials and chemistries while supporting technology maturation and US manufacturing
- $\text{Zn}/(1\text{e-})\text{MnO}_2$ ,  $\text{Zn}/(2\text{e-})\text{Bi},\text{Cu}-\text{MnO}_2$ ,  $\text{Zn}/(2\text{e-})\text{Bi}-\text{CuO}$ ,  $\text{Zn}/\text{Ni}$ ,  $\text{Zn}/\text{air}$ ,  $\text{Zn}$ -ion.



Adapted from "A Critical Comparison of Mildly Acidic versus Alkaline Zinc Batteries"  
Acc. Mater. Res. 2023 4, 4, 299-306.



OE program focuses on increased understanding/performance at lower cost and increased safety

# Zn Project Team – Sandia National Laboratories and Collaborators



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National  
Laboratories



Timothy Lambert

Stephen Budy, Matthew Lim, Igor Kolesnichenko, Noah Schorr, David Arnot, Rachel Habing, Logan Ricketts, Elijah Ruiz, Nelson Bell, Ciara Wright, Bryan Wygant

## Alkaline Batteries for Grid Storage



Energy Institute Prof. Sanjoy Banerjee

Damon Turney, Michael D'Ambrose, Junsang Cho, Brendan Hawkins, Snehal Kolhekar, Michael Nyce, Xia Wei, Prof. Rob Messinger

## Stable Zinc Anodes for High-Energy-Density Rechargeable Aqueous Batteries



Prof. Igor Vasiliev

Birendra A. Magar, Nirajan Paudel

## Theoretical Studies of the Electrochemical Behavior of Solid-State Cathode Materials



Prof. Joshua Gallaway

Andrea Bruck, Matthew Kim, Erik Zimmerer, Yogeshwaran Agilan

## Understanding Phase Change Processes of Energy Storage Materials



Prof. Yang-Tse (YT) Cheng

## Collaborative research to advance solid state ion conductors for emerging batteries [w/Erik Spoerke (SNL)]



Stony Brook  
University



Amy Marschilok,  
Ken Takeuchi

## Advanced Materials for Next Generation Batteries



Gabe Cowles



Gautam Yadav

## Advanced Manufacturing Research



Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory



Cheng Zhu

3D electrodes for  
rechargeable Zn-  
 $MnO_2$  batteries

Tony Van Buuren

## Zn-ion Batteries



Prof. Nian Liu



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Bryan Wygant

## Zn-air