

# Hollow concrete sphere energy storage

Could concrete storage spheres be dropped down to the oceans?

In an effort to reduce the use of precious land to build renewable energy storage facilities, the Fraunhofer Institute has been cooking up a wild but plausible idea: dropping concrete storage spheres down to the depths of our oceans.

How much energy can a sphere store?

Production of the 30m spheres for a StEnSea park. Production of the 10m prototype in the current project. According to Fraunhofer researchers, the global storage potential of this technology is 817,000 gigawatt-hours in total. At the ten best European locations, it is still 166,000 gigawatt-hours.

How does a water sphere store energy?

To store energy, the motor pump pumps the water out of the sphere against the pressure of the surrounding water column. The cycle can then begin again. In a field trial with a three-meter sphere in Lake Constance, Fraunhofer IEE researchers, together with partners, have already proven that this concept works well.

In order to use this potential a hollow concrete sphere is installed in deep water. A pump-turbine in the hollow sphere enables to store electrical energy. When the water is ...

The quest for sustainable energy solutions has led to innovative approaches, and one of the most intriguing is the concept of underwater concrete spheres for storing solar ...

Underwater Ocean Storage Systems (UOSS) - This type of storage system is specifically designed to be used with a renewable energy plant floating offshore [27, 28].

The pilot project called StEnSea, will see the team anchor a hollow, 400t concrete sphere with a diameter of nine metres at a depth of 500 to 600m. By emptying the ...

Recently, the institute completed a successful four-week pilot test using a hollow concrete sphere that it placed on the bottom of Lake Constance, a body of water at the foot of ...

A simple, ingenious concept The project, called StEnSea (Stored Energy in the Sea), was developed by the Fraunhofer IEE (Institute for Energy Economics and Energy ...

A hollow concrete sphere is placed on the seabed and connected to the power grid via underwater cables. During periods of excess energy production, such as midday solar ...

Sources: Sperra, San Pedro, Calif.; CP staff Sperra, developer of a subsea pumped storage hydropower (SPSH)



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concept based on 3D-printed concrete spheres, has ...

The concept for a new form of pumped storage hydro is being developed within the Precision Engineering Research Group at MIT: the Ocean Renewable Energy Storage (ORES) project. ...

Enter underwater hollow concrete sphere energy storage, a gravity-based system that's as simple as it sounds and as clever as it gets. By 2025, this tech has already caught the eye of ...

Sperra, San Pedro, Calif. developer of a subsea pumped storage hydropower (SPSH) concept based on 3D-printed concrete spheres, has secured a \$4 million U.S. ...

The project enables a unique approach to energy storage by putting hollow, 3D printed concrete spheres on the seabed at depths of 600 to 800 meters. These spheres are ...

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