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The Department of Ecology deserves to be commended for its commitment to evaluate battery energy storage systems (BESS). The cost of BESS has declined dramatically as their technical viability has improved. Today the U.S. has more than 1,000 one-megawatt or larger BESSs representing over 50,000 megawatts of capacity with another 70,000 additional megawatts in development.

During your scoping study you should consider the following items:

- 1) Examining BESS technologies beyond just the traditional lithium-ion chemistries.
- 2) Carefully reviewing existing assessments and experiences from the large-scale deployment of these systems in states such as Texas and California
- 3) Allowing a wide range of input from groups and individuals who both support and oppose BESS deployment.
- 4) Conducting a details analysis of proven strategies which mitigate potential impacts of BESS.
- 5) Identification of ways to broadly educate Washington citizens on the BESS system characteristics, impacts, and benefits.

I look forward to seeing the results of your work,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.