7.10 Support Battery Storage Solutions

15 Points | 20 Points | 35 Points

Action Updates

This action is available for the **current certification cycle** and was newly added in 2024.

Objective

Improve energy resilience by encouraging and installing renewable battery storage systems in your municipality.

Complementary Actions:

- Increase Use of Renewable Energy in Municipal Buildings
- Develop a Municipal Energy Plan

What to Do

The more you do, the more points you earn.

1. In your zoning regulations, permit battery storage systems in certain zoning districts and/or uses. **(20 points)**

   Submit: A copy of the zoning regulations formally adopted by your governing body and documentation that the zoning regulations have been adopted (such as meeting minutes, a copy of the municipal zoning regulations with relevant portions highlighted, or similar verification). This subaction is included in the Sustainable CT Climate Leader Designation.

2. Install a battery storage system in a municipal or Board of Education building. The battery storage system installation must have been completed in the last three years. **(15 points)**

   Note: Pairing battery storage with solar installation increases the benefits of both technologies. Solar installations may be submitted for points under Sustainable CT Action 7.4.2, Participate in a Solar Energy Installation.

   Submit: A brief description of the energy storage or battery storage system, including location, installation date, and what type of renewable energy is being stored by the battery system. This subaction is included in the Sustainable CT Climate Leader Designation.

Engaging Partners

Sustainable CT encourages regional collaboration and other forms of partnership. For every action, please complete the “Partners” box in your submission, indicating the name(s) of any municipalities and/or organizations you partnered with (if any) and a brief description of your municipality’s role. If you collaborate with other municipalities, each community will receive points. For additional information, please see the "Partners Guidance Document".

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Staff from the public works, town council, finance, purchasing, information systems, planning and zoning departments, building managers, and energy commission could be helpful in implementing this action.

Funding

If available, below are potential funding sources specific to this Action. For a complete listing of potential funding opportunities to assist with implementing Sustainable CT Actions, please visit the Sustainable CT Grants Portal, which is searchable by Action. Please also visit the Support for Your Town page for opportunities for technical assistance and other supports.

- Climate Program Office (CPO) Adaptation Sciences Program FY2024

Resources

Toolkits, Calculators, Guidance Documents

- Connecticut Green Bank:
  - Commercial and Industrial Energy Storage Solutions
  - Home Energy Storage Solutions
  - Community Energy Storage Solutions
- CT PURA, Energy Storage Solutions Program
- CT DEEP, Renewable Energy Development Initiatives
- CT DEEP, Permitting Concierge and Pre-Application Assistance
- CT DEEP, [Battery Energy Storage Regulatory Considerations]:
  - Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDB)
  - Remediation
  - Inland and Coastal Wetlands Flood Management Certification
  - Construction Stormwater General Permit

Organizations and Relevant Programs

- Connecticut Green Bank
- CT Energy Storage Solutions
- CT PURA

Why This Matters

Energy storage and battery installations can provide critical power backups during storms or power outages. They can also help with peak demand management, easing the burden on the electric grid on high-use days.

Benefits

Benefits of battery storage systems include:

- A backup power source to keep crucial appliances, devices, and systems running - When paired with solar panels, batteries can recharge during the day

CT Success Stories