

Leveraging the ammonia industry for solar energy storage

Can ammonia convert excess solar energy into stable chemical energy?

This paper proposes a solution using ammonia (NH_3) as an energy medium to convert the excess solar energy into stable chemical energy. Analysis of the energy efficiency, technical feasibility and economy of solar-to-ammonia conversion concludes that ammonia is a promising medium for large scale storage of renewable energy, e.g. PV electricity.

Is solar-based ammonia a viable energy storage medium in China?

As an energy storage medium, liquid ammonia (NH_3) actually packs in more hydrogen than liquid hydrogen (H_2) per same volume and the ammonia infrastructure is quite mature in China current industries. Therefore, in order to make it economically viable, motivative policies on encouraging the development of solar-based ammonia are expected in China.

How efficient is ammonia synthesis?

In conclusion, the total system efficiency of the ammonia synthesis process varies from 45.7% to 55.3%. The energy efficiency of ammonia production is 54.6% and 55.9% from coal gasification and natural gas steam, respectively. Therefore, ammonia is feasible as a clean storage medium for large scale sustainable energy.

Does China have a large desert area for solar-based ammonia production?

As known to all, China has huge desert area for PV power station installation, and only using 45 % of China desert area for solar-based ammonia production could meet all the energy demand on substituting gasoline, diesel, natural gas and coal.

Can ammonia be used as a hydrogen carrier in China?

For this reason, there are a large amount of solar and wind power curtailment. Ammonia production from renewable energy may solve this dilemma. Liquid ammonia (NH_3) packs in more hydrogen than hydrogen (H_2) in the same volume and the ammonia infrastructure in China is quite mature in current industries, making it an ideal hydrogen carrier.

What is ammonia used for?

Ammonia is one of the largest chemical products in the world and plays an important role in the global economy, which is traditionally used as fertilizer, deduction of NO_x , and chemical precursors. As an ideal hydrogen carrier, ammonia can also be regarded as an energy storage medium, especially for renewable energy.

The fast growth of ground photovoltaic (PV) installation and restricted consumption of generated PV electricity result in massive unused/excess PV electricity in the north-west ...

Ammonia (NH_3) plays a vital role in global agricultural systems owing to its fertilizer usage is a prerequisite

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for all nitrogen mineral fertilizers and around 70 % of globally ...

The ammonia-based energy storage system demonstrates a new opportunity for integrating energy storage within wind or solar farms. As the paper states, "the geographical site of a wind ...

The current study addresses the optimal design of an ammonia synthesis process, integrating ammonia separation through exothermic absorption within a heat recovery cycle for solar ...

Analysis of the energy efficiency, technical feasibility and economy of solar-to-ammonia conversion concludes that ammonia is a promising medium for large scale storage ...

The specific objectives of this study include (i) developing a new solar-wind based energy system utilizing ammonia based energy storage and providing useful outputs of power ...

Solar thermochemical energy storage (TCES) exploits a chemically reversible reaction by using solar energy to heat an endothermic reactor. The reaction products are stored, and when ...

His recent research, in collaboration with partners at UCLA includes a 2017 paper at Chemical Engineering Progress, Leveraging the Ammonia Industry for Solar Energy Storage - ...

Ammonia as an energy storage medium is a promising set of technologies for peak shaving due to its carbon-free nature and mature mass production and distribution ...

Ammonia could substitute molten salt as an energy storage medium in CSP plants. Researchers say this could significantly reduce the cost of CSP with storage, because ...

bundance, has been investigated as a thermochemical storage medium. During solar insolation, the solar thermal energy is used for the endothermic cracking of ammonia to nitrogen and ...

Some limited efforts are found in the literature that investigate renewable energy based power plants with this method of energy storage. Wang et al. [7] investigated the usage ...

on the energy storage-related data released by the CEC for 2022. Based on a brief analysis of the global and Chinese energy storage markets in terms of size and future ...

Due to the important role of ammonia as a fertilizer in the agricultural industry and its promising prospects as an energy carrier, many studies have recently attempted to find the most ...

For wind/solar-based hydrogen (ammonia/methanol) production and renewable energy replacement in coal-fired captive power plants, only non-tradable GCs will be issued. ...

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energy storage techniques and shows that ammonia and hydrogen are the two most promising solutions that, apart from serving the objective of long-term storage in a low ...

Ammonia (NH_3) is an energy-dense chemical and a vital component of fertilizer. In addition, it is a carbon-neutral liquid fuel and a potential candidate for thermochemical energy ...

Siddiqui and Dincer [147] investigated the integration of wind and solar energy systems with ammonia energy storage. In their study, solar and wind energy sources were utilized for ...

Ammonia fits the requirements of energy storage driven by sustainable energy. Ammonia from solar power has potential in cost and energy consumption reduction. Taking ...

The unanswered question is what share of the energy storage market could be captured by ammonia-based systems but, whatever fraction it will be, this presents a significant business opportunity for ammonia synthesis ...

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