

Fire Safety Declaration on Battery Energy Storage

July 28, 2025

As fire safety professionals, our top priority is the protection of life, property, and public health.

We have closely reviewed battery energy storage systems, studied the codes, examined how these systems are built, monitored, and maintained. We are here to say clearly and confidently: Battery energy storage systems, when installed and operated under New York's rigorous and updated safety standards, are safe.

National codes and standards, like the National Fire Protection Association Standard 855, provide a strong foundation for the safety of battery energy storage systems. New York, in partnership with fire safety experts, has built on that foundation to create one of the most comprehensive and protective sets of battery storage safety requirements in the nation. These standards have now been further strengthened through updated codes that reflect the latest technology, field experience, and safety data.

These safeguards include:

- Independent engineering review and permitting, supported by direct full-scale testing
- Continuous 24/7 monitoring for early issue detection
- Rigorous testing for all final installed equipment to mitigate fire propagation
- Emergency response planning developed in coordination with local fire departments

Battery energy storage is key to keeping New York's electric grid reliable, storing power for when it's needed most, especially during peak demand and extreme weather. We believe that with proper oversight, clear protocols, and continued training for emergency responders, battery energy storage can and should be safely integrated into our communities.

With the updated protections, New Yorkers can be confident in the safety of battery energy storage.

Signed,

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