

The Time Has Come for a Strategic Electricity Reserve

WRITTEN BY

[William R. Derasmo](#)

The Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) has become a household phrase in recent months as the Biden administration has relied on releases of oil from the SPR to alleviate price increases at the pump. While the SPR has been around for decades, the nation has never had a Strategic Electricity Reserve (SER) — and with good reason — electricity is simultaneously produced and consumed on our bulk power system. But recent technological advances with respect to grid-scale batteries have led to explosive growth in the deployment of these devices. Increasingly, grid-scale batteries are seen as a necessary complement to renewable resources, such as wind and solar generation, which are intermittent resources. But given recent geopolitical events, is it time to consider constructing an SER for national security reasons

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