

Dominion Energy is investigating the viability of a hydroelectric storage project in the Coalfield region of Southwest Virginia.

Hydroelectric storage can be used as a type of large battery to store electricity produced by other generators, such as wind or solar power, until it is needed.

Hydroelectric stations typically have two reservoirs located at different elevations. When electricity is needed, water is released from the upper reservoir through tunnels that lead to a turbine and generator which produce electricity for homes and businesses.

When demand is low, electricity is used from other sources to power huge pumps that push the water back into the upper reservoir, essentially storing that water for later use.

Dominion Energy has the majority ownership and operates the nation's largest hydroelectric storage station, the Bath County storage station, which can produce up to three thousand megawatts.