



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Merab Talamantes
Public Information Officer
(209) 467-6613

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2021

RTD Installs First Battery Energy Storage System

Stockton, CA—Continuing to improve its business model to be increasingly sustainable both environmentally and fiscally, San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) recently installed a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) that is a part of its ongoing Priority Review Project with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). The 500kW BESS unit—which is approximately the size of two parking spots—includes the external shell and contains communication equipment software and can hold up to 72 batteries (the energy storage unit part of the BESS).

“We’re excited to add this infrastructure to our already state of the art facility that supports RTD’s business and operational needs in an environmentally sustainable way,” said Chairman of the Board Michael Restuccia.

With the approval of the California Utilities Commission, PG&E selected RTD in 2018 as its partner to better understand the future electricity needs of their customers. The program provided reimbursement of equipment in 2019—five depot bus chargers and transformer upgrades—and also funded the 500kW BESS unit that is currently being installed at the Union Transfer Station.

The BESS unit will allow RTD to evaluate the effectiveness of charging the BESS during low electricity rates and using the stored energy during hours of high electricity rates. Also known as peak shaving, the BESS will allow RTD to evaluate the effectiveness of reducing the peak power draws from the PG&E grid. This minimizes monthly demand costs, with the potential savings for RTD between \$3,000 to \$5,000 per month.

“Not only will this project yield financial benefits for RTD,” said Chief Operating Officer Darla Smith, “it also places less demand on the grid during peak times, which is especially important in the months of heat waves and potential fires as we have seen in the past years.”

A contractor is scheduled to commission and run tests to look at energy consumption data to optimize peak shaving. The unit is expected to be fully operational by end of July 2021.

San Joaquin Regional Transit District (RTD) is the regional transit provider for San Joaquin County. RTD’s mission is to provide a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system for the region. For more information visit sjRTD.com, follow RTD on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/sjRTD) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/sjRTD), or call (209) 943-1111.

#