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Advances in Battery Technology for Renewable Energy Storage

With the rapid development of renewable energy, efficiently storing these energy sources has become a key issue. Renewable energies such as solar and wind are clean and environmentally friendly, but their intermittent and unstable nature limits large-scale application. Therefore, battery technology plays a crucial role in the storage of renewable energy.

Lithium batteries are currently one of the most common storage technologies, widely used in both residential and commercial energy storage systems. Due to their high energy density, long lifespan, and low self-discharge rate, lithium batteries offer significant advantages in storing solar and wind energy. They reliably store excess solar energy during the day and supply power at night or on cloudy days. Additionally, solid-state lithium batteries, as the next generation of storage technology, offer higher energy density and improved safety, making them a promising alternative to traditional liquid lithium batteries.

In addition to lithium batteries, sodium-sulfur batteries and flow batteries are also promising storage technologies. Sodium-sulfur batteries have high energy density and low cost, making them suitable for large-scale energy storage. Since sodium is more abundant than lithium, sodium-sulfur batteries are a cost-effective and potential alternative. Flow batteries, which store energy using liquid electrolytes, offer longer lifespans and are particularly suitable for grid-level energy storage.

Researchers are continuously innovating to improve battery storage efficiency. For example, new materials are being used to enhance the charge and discharge efficiency, shorten charging times, and increase battery cycle life. Additionally, the development of environmentally friendly batteries is another important direction, aiming to reduce environmental impacts during production and recycling.

Although battery technology has made significant progress in energy storage, challenges such as high costs, limited raw materials, and charging speed remain. In the future, with ongoing technological breakthroughs, it is expected that more efficient, low-cost, and environmentally friendly storage solutions will emerge, promoting the widespread adoption of renewable energy.