Integrating solar and storage technologies into Korea's energy landscape

Business models and policy implications

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Korea Energy Market What are key drivers in promoting clean energy?

#### **Policies**



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What policy instruments are there to achieve the national RE target 20% by 2030?

#### **Market Players**

How is the energy market structured and who are winning in the market?

### **Business model**

What business model proliferates in the market and why?

## Korea has seen significant growth trajectory in carbon emissions due to large manufacturing base

#### South Korea's GHG Emission Trends\* and NDC Target

(million ton,  $CO_2$  eq.)





\* Gross Emission, excepted LULUCF absorption

Source: National greenhouse gas inventory report of Korea(2017)

Local air pollution is threatening daily lives of citizen and calls for policy intervention toward clean energy



"total 130 of ultra fine dust and fine dust alarms issued In Korea 2017. 1Q"

Authorities announced package of measures to reduce fine dust emission by 30%, ~2022

Source: Media research







## Declining cost of technology is making clean energy more competitive compared to traditional energy technology



#### Solar PV module price trends

#### **1MW ESS installment cost forecast**

(\$/KWh)



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance



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## RE grew 19% annually for past 5 years, with significant increase in solar and biomass



South Korea's renewable generation trends by source \*

\* Excluding Waste generation

Source: KEPCO statistics

### While RE accounts for only 7% of total electricity generation in Korea, the new administration's 'Renewable Energy 3020' has put ambitious target to increase RE share to 20% by 2030



South Korea's Generation mix

\* Others: Oil and group energy

Source: KEPCO statistics

## RPS is the main policy tool that helps RE projects become economically competitive by providing market-based incentive

#### South Korea's RPS Scheme (2017 revised)

- Power companies with over 500MW of installed capacity must increase their renewable energy mix to a level set by government
- RE mix is defined as the proportion of renewable electricity generation in the total non-renewable electricity generation
- Currently the government is working to increase existing RPS target to achieve 'Renewable Energy 3020' plan



#### Source: Korea Energy Agency

## REC weight is set to provide strong incentive for small-scale solar and hybrid application with energy storage

**REC** weight for solar PV

Installation type	Details	REC weights
Install on general site	Under 100kW	1.2
	100kW – under 3,000kW	1.0
	Over 3,000kW	0.7
Install in existing facility (ex. existing buildings)	Under 3,000kW	1.5
	3,000kw and over	1.0
Floating system In	1.5	
On-site generation	1.0	
Solar + ESS	effective in `16, `17	5.0

#### **REC** weight for other renewables

Installation type	Details	REC weights
IGCC, By-product gas	0.25	
Waste, Land fill gas	0.5	
Hydro, On-shore wind, RDF, Waste G Marine tidal (with embankmer on-site generation connected to	1.0	
Wood biomass, Off-shore wind(~ connection distance), Hydrothe	1.5	
Fuel cell, Ocean energy	2.0	
Off-shore wind (over 5km of	Fixed	2.0
Marine tidal (without embankment)	Variable	1.0-2.5
	`15	5.5
Wind + ESS	`16	5.0
	`17	4.5

Source: Korea Energy Agency

## For PV+ESS, charging during PV peak time will earn the highest REC weight and also eliminate rapid power/voltage swing

#### REC weight 5.0 granted to solar PV + ESS

- REC 5.0 applies to all electricity discharged from solar PV+ESS during off-peak time (peak time: 10AM-4PM)
- Effective from 2017 (to be adjusted after 2018 July)



#### **Expectation**

- Optimize connection capacity during PV peak hours
- Create \$400million of new ESS market (800 MWh)
- \$300million of Investment Deferral (20MW)

#### Challenge

- Peak demand during day-time in summer season
- Efficiency loss during conversion

#### Source: Industry data

### Government can design funding mechanism to scale-up the investment and create public awareness on RE

#### Korea's citizen fund for solar projects : Seoul Metropolitan Government case



- 1) KOEN: Korea South-East Power
- 2) KDHC: Korea District Heating Corporation

However, tax and duty structure across different technology are not currently consistent with the new administration's policy direction



# The government is considering using LCOE from next energy planning because LCOE reflects external cost and helps make unbiased investment decision on future energy mix



#### 2030 LCOE projection by technology assuming maximum external cost (KRW/kWh)

#### Source: Energy & Climate Policy Institute

LCOE comparison by each technology indicates that solar will become more cost-competitive and reach grid-party by 2030, whereas fossil fuel will no longer be profitable due to their associated external cost



2030 LCOE projection by technology assuming 50% external cost (KRW/kWh)

#### Source: Energy & Climate Policy Institute

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## Korea energy market is largely dominated by the state-owned utility KEPCO and its 6 affiliate power companies



#### 2 Private Suppliers

Supply Technologies & Business development

## **KEPCO** and power companies are exploring new biz opportunities in downstream due to increasing RE penetration



## KEPCO deployed the world's largest FR-ESS on its own grid for grid stability and operational cost saving



Source: KEPCO; Media research

For solar value-chain, major conglomerates are expanding vertically to win in cost-driven market



Source: Company data

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## Solar PV manufacturers are increasing their production capa and sales in overseas market to gain economies of scale



#### Source: Korea Energy Agency; Company data

## Korea has leading lithium-ion battery manufacturers and they are starting to make a profit



\* EV sector accounts for a large portion of the rev.

\* ESS sector turned around in 2016, cutting losses in EV sector

#### Source: Company data; Media research

## Heavy electronic/IT companies perform as SI and/or EPC in ESS market



• SI or EPC players in private sector develops oversea business on their own or in cooperation with public utilities



Source: Media research; EY Analysis



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### Model 1: Third-party ownership (residential)

Third-party ownership enables system owner to build PV on residential customer premise and get monthly lease payment

Third-party owned model



<sup>1)</sup> Renewable Energy Point: eligible for single house under 3kW @234 KRW / kWh based on 2017 solar lease program

## Model 1: Third-party ownership (residential)

Solar lease program is on track to achieve its goal of installing PV in 1 million houses due to the program's economic benefit



<sup>1)</sup> 3kW single house; maximum least cost assumed based on 2017 solar lease program

Industrial sector accounts for over half of total electricity consumption, and thus energy storage will have bigger impact on reducing the bill

#### Annual electricity consumption by sector (2010-2016)



Source: Korea Energy Agency

For C&I, hybrid application of PV + energy storage has become popular as the customer can offset their electricity bill with REC



<sup>1)</sup> Source: News Clipping

Wastewater treatment facility provides project developers sufficient space to install PV and earn high REC weight, while allowing provincial government to create new source of steady income



#### Wastewater treatment facility (Gwangmyeong)

- Project sponsor: KD power, Q1 solar
- Project size: 1.8 MW
- Rental contract: 10 years
- Rental fee: 30,000 KRW / kW (approx. USD 50k / year)



#### Wastewater treatment facility (Seonam/Joongrang)

- Project sponsor: Hanwha Q Cell
- Project size: solar 3.6MW
- Rental contract: 10 years

## Companies also use their own property as marketing tool to showcase their technology

LS-IS Busan Office (PV+ESS)





- System: PV 1MW, PCS 1MW, Battery 3MWh (USD 4 million)
- Construction period: Sep Dec 2017
- Target revenue: USD 600k from SMP + REC sales

Source: Korea Energy Agency

## Similar to automotive lease model, customer ownership model eliminates customer's burden of paying upfront cost and transfers the asset ownership to the customer once the term expires

#### **Customer owned model**



## ESS has different applications from power generation to end customers and thus have multiple business model in accordance with its application

	Application	Purpose	Benefit
Generation	Capacity firming	Maintain the intermittent power output from RE at a firm level for a period of time	Smooth the output and control ramp rate (MW/min) to eliminate rapid voltage and power swings on the electrical grid
	Load levelling	Store power at off-peak and delivering it at on-peak	Reduce the load on less economical peak- generating facilities
	Frequency regulation	ESS is charged or discharged in response to an increase or decrease in grid frequency	Improve power quality
	Spinning reserve	Provide seconds-scale reserve to respond to generation or transmission outage	Eliminate the need to have back-up generators
T&D	Voltage support	Protect loads against sharp drop of voltage in grid	Maintain voltages within the acceptable range
	T&D deferral	Maintain adequate T&D capacity to serve load requirement	Defer the need for the upgrade
BTM	Peak shaving	Reduce peak demand	Avoid installations of additional capacity
	Energy arbitrage	Charge at off-peak, discharge at on-peak	Save on electricity bills

## The government's temporary ESS rate discount program boosted customer-owned ESS as peak shaving is heavily compensated

#### Overview of ESS rate discount program

- Special electricity rates apply to ESSs deployed in general, industrial and educational buildings
- Effective 2017 2020



#### Daily load pattern with ESS peak shaving

#### ESS rate discount program



#### Source: Industry data

## Large-scale ESS is being deployed as investment payback period is reduced to 3-4 years

Hyundai heavy industries (Ulsan)



- Project sponsor: Korea Energy Agency, KEPCO energy solution, Hyundai commercial
- Configuration: Battery 51.5MWh, PCS 24MW
- Project financials
  - Total investment: \$24 million
  - Expected annual saving: \$8 million (~'20), \$5 million ('21~)
- Commission date: Nov 2017 (total 20 years)
- Operation strategy: 10% peak-shaving, ESS rate discount program

## Model 3: Utility ownership

## Utility firm builds and owns PV through SPC and sell power to the grid as intra-company transaction

Utility-owned model (school solar)



### Model 3: Utility ownership

## As utility-ownership model, KEPCO launched school solar program to install 250MW in 2,500 schools by 2020



<KEPCO-Daejon education authority MOU signing ceremony, 2016>



<Solar PV installed on school rooftop>

- Project sponsor: SPC(KEPCO / 6 Power Companies)
- Investment cost: \$550 million
- Project size: 250MW (2,500 out of 11,446 schools)
- PPA contract: 20 years

<sup>1)</sup> Source: News Clipping



### Model 3: Utility ownership

## Utility firm has set fixed KW-based price for renting school rooftop, enabling project economics indifferent from installation location



Rooftop solar PV revenue simulation for school solar program<sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup> SMP and REC price based on spot price

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