

## SolarTech Power Solutions

# Inverter battery foreign trade



## Overview

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Are Chinese tariffs affecting battery energy storage systems?

If you're in the business of battery energy storage systems (BESS), you've probably felt the squeeze of tariffs on Chinese imports. For years, China has been a go-to for affordable, high-capacity energy storage solutions, but ongoing trade policies and tariffs have made importing these systems into the U.S. more complicated — and expensive.

Which international trade issues will remain a concern for energy storage projects?

Two major areas of international trade that will remain causes of concern for energy storage projects are the application of tariffs and supply chain integrity.

Will China impose tariffs on lithium-ion EV batteries?

An interesting issue will be the imposition of tariffs. There are existing tariffs pursuant to Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 on some Chinese-origin lithium-ion EV batteries and non-lithium-ion battery parts, which were increased to 25% in September 2024.

How does tariff risk affect a battery energy storage system (BESS) project?

Mitigating tariff risk in battery energy storage system (BESS) projects is crucial for ensuring project financial viability, as tariff changes can significantly affect cost structures and overall project economics.

How will Section 301 tariffs affect Bess batteries?

The biggest impact comes from Section 301 tariffs, which add 25% to the cost of many battery components. Here's the rundown: As of March 22, 2025, BESS manufactured in China and shipped to the U.S. faces a tariff rate that's already a bit of a gut punch.

When will Chinese-origin lithium-ion non-EV batteries be taxed?

Tariffs on Chinese-origin lithium-ion non-EV batteries are scheduled to increase to 25% effective January 1, 2026. Otherwise, batteries of non-Chinese origin storage batteries have not been subject to multi-front targeted tariff or duty actions.

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