## Compressed air energy storage

- Uses electricity to pump air into confined spaces at high pressure. When electricity is needed, the air is released through a turbine to produce electricity.
- Suitable for storage over long periods such as across days and seasons.
- Underground spaces (salt caverns; aquifers etc) can be used to store large amounts of energy for when demand is high.
- Smaller containers like tanks and underwater balloons store less energy, but can be used in more places.

Key facts		
Technologies:	Compressed Air, underground caverns, pressurised containers	
Location:	National grid. Communities.	
Readiness:	Demonstration stage.	
Environmental impacts, safety and resource use:	<ul> <li>Pressurised containers can explode if damaged.</li> <li>Mining is often required to create underground cavities and reservoirs. This is less harmful than some forms of mining but can be disruptive to local ecosystems.</li> </ul>	

