ESS Announces Successful Commissioning of Long-Duration Iron Flow Battery Systems at Turlock Irrigation District Solar-Over-Canal Project

Project Demonstrates ESS Technology in an Innovative Infrastructure Application, Combining Energy Storage, Renewable Generation and Water Conservation

Commissioning Marks Operational Milestone for ESS and Supports TID's Innovative Water and Energy Infrastructure Project

WILSONVILLE, OR – May 5, 2026 – ESS Tech, Inc. (NYSE: GWH) ("ESS" or the "Company"), a leading manufacturer of long-duration iron flow energy storage systems ("LDES") for commercial and utility-scale applications, today announced the successful commissioning of two ESS iron flow battery systems at Turlock Irrigation District ("TID") in California's Central Valley.

The project pairs ESS iron flow battery technology with solar panels installed above active irrigation canals, an innovative configuration designed to generate renewable electricity while helping reduce water evaporation. ESS believes the project demonstrates the ability of long-duration iron flow battery technology to support critical infrastructure applications where reliability, safety and flexible energy dispatch are important.

"The successful commissioning of this project is an important milestone for ESS and a strong demonstration of our iron flow battery technology in a real-world infrastructure application," said Drew Buckley, Chief Executive Officer of ESS Tech. "We are proud to support Turlock Irrigation District on this innovative project and believe it highlights the potential for long-duration energy storage to play a valuable role in helping customers manage renewable energy, strengthen resilience and support broader resource conservation goals."

The solar-over-canal configuration is drawing growing interest as water agencies and utilities look for ways to address both energy and water challenges. By combining renewable generation with long-duration storage, the TID project is designed to improve the usability of solar power produced at the site while also supporting water conservation objectives.

ESS's iron flow battery technology uses iron, salt and water as its primary materials and is designed to provide safe, long-duration energy storage for stationary applications. The collaboration underscores ESS's commitment to safe and sustainable energy infrastructure.

To learn more about the Turlock Irrigation District solar-over-canal project, click here to watch a video overview.

About ESS Tech, Inc.

ESS (NYSE: GWH) is the leading manufacturer of long-duration iron flow energy storage solutions. ESS was established in 2011 with a mission to accelerate decarbonization safely and sustainably through longer lasting energy storage. Using easy-to-source iron, salt, and water, ESS iron flow technology enables energy security, reliability and resilience. We build flexible storage solutions that allow our customers to meet increasing energy demand without power disruptions and maximize the value potential of excess energy. For more information visit www.essinc.com.

Cautionary Language on Forward-Looking Statements

This communication contains forward-looking statements (including within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended) concerning the Company and other matters that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. These statements may discuss the management team's goals, beliefs, hopes, intentions and expectations as to future plans, trends, events, results of operations and financial condition, or otherwise, based on current beliefs of the management of the Company, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the Company's management. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the words "anticipate," "believe," "continue," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intends," "may," "might," "plan," "possible," "potential," "predict," "project," "should," "will," "would," or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology may identify forward-looking statements, but the absence of these words does not mean that a statement is not forward-looking. These forward-looking statements, which are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions about us, may include our anticipated growth strategies and anticipated trends in our business. Examples of forward-looking statements include, among others, statements pertaining to market opportunities for ESS' products, pace of commercial activity, and relationships with customers. These forward-looking statements are based on ESS' current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on ESS. Many factors could cause actual future events to differ materially from the forward-looking statements in this communication. There can be no assurance that the future developments affecting ESS will be those that we have anticipated. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties (some of which are beyond ESS control) or other assumptions that may cause actual results or performance to be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements, which include, but are not limited to, our products being in the early stage of commercialization and aspects of our technology not having been fully field tested; required maintenance being performed incorrectly or maintenance requirements exceeding our current expectations; failure to deliver the benefits offered by our technology; inability to achieve market acceptance of our products; our warranty obligations; and other risks and uncertainties described more fully in the section titled "Risk Factors" in the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-K filed on March 5, 2026, and the Company's other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Except as required by law, ESS is not undertaking any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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