Resonance energy of a resonance stabilized species is the difference between its energy and the energy of its lowest-energy resonance form.

eg:
The hypothetical, resonance-stabilized molecule X has three resonance forms (X₁, X₂, and X₃). The graph below shows the relative energies of X (hybrid) and its resonance forms.

The difference in energy between X and X₃ is the resonance energy of X.

Contributors

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