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(54) **DIELECTRIC ELASTOMER POWER GENERATION SYSTEM**

(57) A dielectric elastomer power generation system of the invention includes: a power generation unit including a dielectric elastomer power generation element having a dielectric elastomer layer flanked by two electrode layers; a step-down unit including capacitors; a power storage unit for input of an output power from the step-down unit; and a control unit that controls the connection between the step-down unit and the power generation unit or power storage unit. The step-down unit includes first diodes and second diodes, where the first diodes form a circuit that connects the capacitors in series when the power generation unit is connected to the step-down unit, and the second diodes form a circuit that connects the capacitors in parallel when the step-down unit is connected to the power storage unit. This configuration serves to store the generated power more effi-

ciently in the power storage unit, e.g., a secondary battery.

FIG. 1

