

Residual value of solar panels





Overview

What is residual value of a solar system?

As the solar industry continues to grow and mature, more and more attention is being paid to a solar system's residual value - or the value of the system at the end of a project's life.

How long do solar panels last?

Considering that solar panels generally carry performance warranties of 25 years, with production capacity that can often last well beyond that, the residual value of these systems can often be quite significant. Far too often though, solar system owners are not achieving the full potential value of their systems.

Can PV panels be recycled?

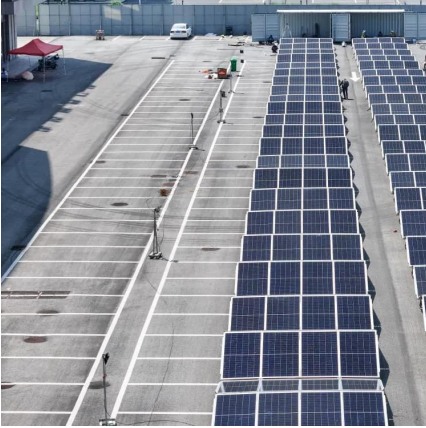
Aluminum and glass, about 84 % of a PV panel's weight, are easily recyclable by conventional recycling technologies like crushing and sorting. However, the glass gets contaminated during the shredding process " it is reused mostly for construction materials or reflective paint .

How long can solar panels re-pay embodied energy?

The average EPBT is about two to four years but varies between 1.45 and 7.4 years . These analyses do not take EOL into account, but even so, solar panels can re-pay their embodied energy with very little use. But that is certainly not the point.



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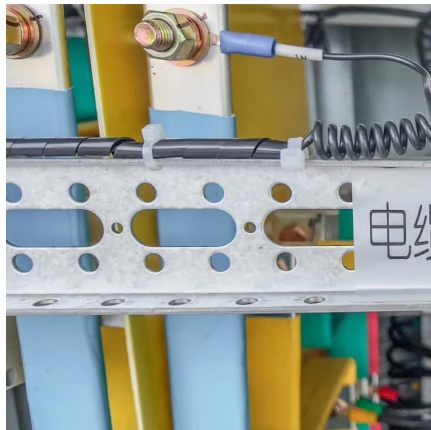
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