

Will solar power change in the Atacama Desert?

A group of scientists from the Universidade de Vigo in Spain have sought to predict possible future variations in the solar photovoltaic power resource in the Atacama Desert in northern Chile, the world's region with the highest solar radiation levels, during the period 2021-2060.

What is the solar potential of the Atacama Desert?

The solar potential of the Atacama Desert (see Fig. 1a) has begun to be exploited. Deployment of utility-scale PV power plants soared enormously within recent years; while the PV power capacity was only 3.6 MWp in 2012, it increased to 1.8 GWp by December 2017 4.

Does Atacama have solar power?

On account of these characteristics, Atacama has exceptional conditions for producing solar power, and effectively, the solar power installed capacity in this region represents 92.9% of the total installed capacity in Chile (4,150 MW) . The potential of Atacama for solar energy production has made it called "the solar El Dorado" .

Does RSDs influence photovoltaic energy generation in the Atacama Region?

However, photovoltaic energy generation relies on not only RSDS ,but also other variables, such as surface air temperature (TAS) and surface wind velocity (sfcWind). In this vein, the existing literature is insufficient to provide useful meteorological and climatological information for PV generation in the Atacama region.

Where is the Atacama Desert located?

In the north-central part of the country is located the Atacama Desert. With an area of 105,000 km², it covers most of the Antofagasta region and the northern part of the Atacama region . It is one of the driest places in the world and one of the few where annual irradiance exceeds 2,500 kWh/m² .

Where is Cerro Dominador solar power plant located?

Cerro Dominador Solar Power Plant (Spanish: Planta Solar Cerro Dominador) is a 210- megawatt (MW) combined concentrated solar power and photovoltaic plant located in the commune of María Elena in the Antofagasta Region of Chile, about 24 kilometres (15 miles) west-northwest of Sierra Gorda.

Here, we use regional climate models to explore how climate change will affect the photovoltaic solar power resource per square meter (PVres) in Atacama. Models project average ...

The Atacama Desert receives as much sunlight as Venus. 1.6m¹⁷⁸; and 2m¹⁷⁸; solar cells are to be consistent with those used in the UK calculation, as is the power of 250W and 400W for the solar cell ...

A renewable energy laboratory in the Atacama desert. The solar thermal Cerro Dominador, which Chileans

compare to Sauron's tower from The Lord of the Rings, has become a symbol of Chile's energy ...

Further, it will offset 576,600mt of carbon dioxide emissions a year from coal-fired power stations. El Romero solar PV plant location and make-up. The El Romero solar power plant is being developed on a 280ha site in ...

Air pollution and dust prevail over many regions that have rapid growth of solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation, potentially reducing PV generation. Here we combine ...

The Atacama desert is the driest place on earth and the region with the highest solar radiation on the planet. That's where Subsole, one of the Chile 's largest locally owned exporters of table ...

In the Atacama Desert, the spectral distribution of solar radiation differs from the global standard, showing very high levels of irradiation with a particularly high ultraviolet content. Additionally, the response of ...

A 200-metre tower will capture the solar energy reflected by 10,600 heliostats - giants mirrors able to follow the sun's motions in the sky - and will produce 110 MW of solar thermal energy in combination with 100 MW of ...

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