

Oversupply of solar container battery farms

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Is California oversupply of solar power causing problems?

A new analysis by Los Angeles Times staff writer Melody Petersen found major problems in the state's current solar economy. Oversupply of solar power is causing California's operators to regularly halt production or even pay electricity traders to take power off their hands. Sometimes, other states snag the extra energy for cheap.

Are solar farms being shut off?

Solar farms are being shut off, losing more than twice as much potential power than in 2021. The surplus would be worse if utilities weren't paying other states to take some of the excess. Westlands Solar Park, near the town of Lemoore in the San Joaquin Valley.

How do solar farms make money?

An even bigger source of revenue for solar farms is the so-called renewable energy credit, or REC, Ackerman and others say. Producers of renewable energy get one REC for each megawatt hour they put on the grid. Companies buy the RECs, allowing them to take credit for the environmental benefits of that megawatt hour of solar.

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According to Independent System Operator data, in recent years, the amount of renewable energy curtailed, or wasted, has skyrocketed from both oversupply and so-called ...

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According to the Times, oversupply has occasionally gotten so bad in California that the prices go negative, forcing solar plants to pay energy traders to take it off their hands.

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California's push toward clean energy has led to an unexpected challenge: an oversupply of solar energy. At times, the state generates more solar power than it can use, ...

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