

# **Does solar power generation use solar panels**





## Overview

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At a high level, solar panels are made up of solar cells, which absorb sunlight. They use this sunlight to create direct current (DC) electricity through a process called "the photovoltaic effect." How does solar energy generation work?

Solar energy generation follows a structured process to transform sunlight into usable electricity. This process involves several essential steps, starting with Photovoltaic (PV) cells within solar panels absorbing sunlight.

How do solar panels generate usable electricity?

Solar arrays create a usable electricity system for your home by producing direct current (DC) electricity. This is achieved through the photovoltaic effect, where solar cells convert sunlight into electrical energy.

What type of electricity does a solar panel use?

AC is the type of electrical current used when you plug appliances into normal wall sockets. What's the difference between solar PV panels and solar thermal panels?

Solar PV panels generate electricity, as described above, while solar thermal panels generate heat.

How do solar photovoltaic cells work?

Solar photovoltaic cells are grouped in panels, and panels can be grouped into arrays of different sizes to power water pumps, power individual homes, or provide utility-scale electricity generation. Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (copyrighted)



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When sunlight hits photovoltaic solar panels, the movement of excited electrons generates an electric field.



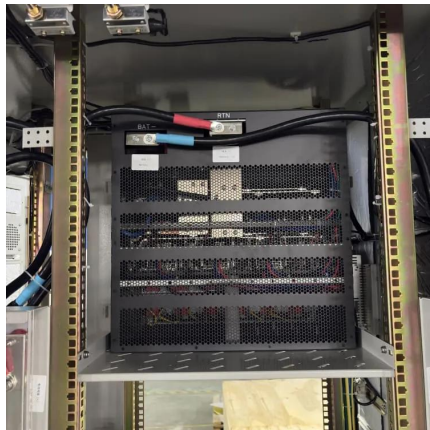
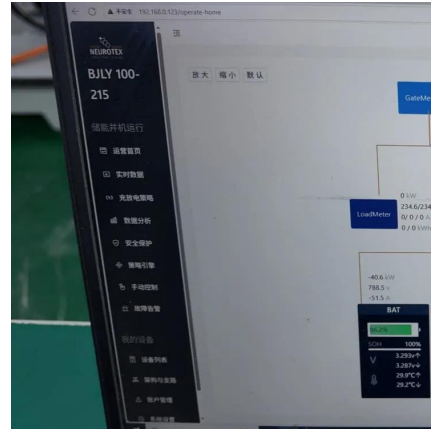
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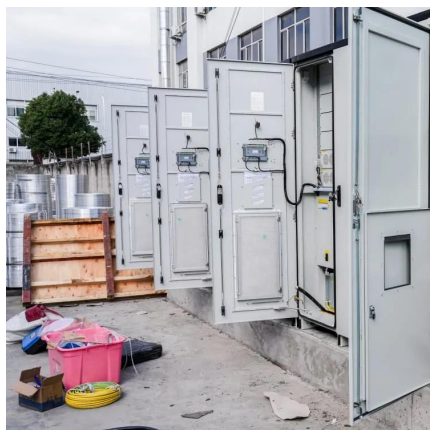


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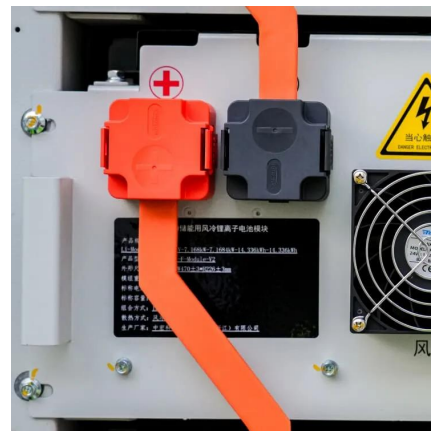
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