

Distributed photovoltaic energy storage in Morocco







Overview

What is Morocco's first solar project?

Morocco's 800 MW solar hybrid project at Midelt will be the first solar project in the world to include thermal (heat) storage of PV (Photovoltaic) as well as CSP (Concentrated Solar Power). Midelt's first-of-a-kind hybrid solar and shared storage project will deliver dispatchable solar at 7 cents per kWh.

Is Morocco a good place to invest in solar energy?

Beyond Midelt, Morocco aims to develop 10 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy (20% from solar) by 2030, with solar energy constituting a significant share. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) notes that Morocco's solar potential, driven by 3,000 hours of annual sunshine, positions it as a prime location for large-scale projects.

Can Morocco export solar energy to Europe?

Noor's success has laid the groundwork for Morocco's broader strategy, exporting solar energy to Europe. The complex demonstrates Morocco's ability to deliver large-scale renewable projects, earning the confidence of international partners.

Is Moroccan project the first hybrid solar project with CSP?

The Moroccan project marks the first time that the PV in a hybrid solar project with CSP will also charge the thermal energy storage incorporated in the CSP power block.

What is Morocco's solar export strategy?

Morocco's solar export strategy is a bold bid for geopolitical influence. By 2035, the country aims to develop 20 GW of solar capacity, with half earmarked for export, the Ministry of Energy projects. Therefore, this vision aligns with Europe's decarbonization goals, positioning Morocco as a linchpin in the transcontinental energy trade.



Should Morocco co-locate PV and CSP and share CSP thermal storage?

This idea of colocating PV and CSP and sharing the CSP thermal storage is one that Schmitz believes will be widely applicable as energy grids become more saturated with renewables, not just Morocco's, and as therefor more regulators move from lowest cost to "best fit" procurement.



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