

Solar system merchants





Overview

What is a merchant solar system?

In the Merchant Model, the entity bears all costs associated with the solar installation. This includes equipment, installation, and ongoing maintenance. However, it also means that the owner reaps all the benefits, including any excess energy that can be sold back to the grid. How Does It Work?

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What is a solar merchant model?

The Merchant Model involves the direct ownership of a solar energy system by the entity consuming the generated power. This model empowers the owner with complete control over the system, including installation, maintenance, and operation. What is the Solar Merchant Model?

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Who owns a merchant solar plant?

Firstly, there is no clear market leader. Most asset owners only own one merchant solar plant on our list, except for American giants First Solar and SunEdison that own two plants each, amounting to a total of resp. 159 MW and 123.5 MW.

Why are merchant solar power projects on the rise?

Merchant solar power projects are on the rise in a growing number of markets worldwide, particularly those where grid integration of renewables is approaching levels that give grid operators and regulators pause for concern and leads them to reform policies so as to wean solar power developers and owners off subsidies.

Which country has the most merchant solar PV plants?



Chile was found to be the country with the largest amount of entries in the top 15 Merchant solar plants, with 11 active projects, followed by Mexico with 3 plants in operation and trailed by the US with one operational project that was able to make our list. Chile also is home of the top 3 ranked merchant solar PV plants.

What will the upcoming year bring for merchant solar markets?

The coming year is expected to bring great development for merchant solar markets across the world. One of the fastest growing solar markets in the world, Australia, is expecting the 128 MW Sun Brilliance project to be commissioned, which will be the country's largest merchant solar PV plant to date.



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