

Japanese solar power scam revealed

Does Japan have a problem with solar power?

A Mainichi Shimbun survey found that of all 47 prefectures in Japan, 80% have problems with solar power energy in one way or another. Known as the "sunny land" because of its many fair-weather days, the western Japan prefecture of Okayama is highly suited to solar power generation.

Does Japan have a problem with mega solar farms?

Popular opposition appears to be so strong that a 2021 survey by the Mainichi Shimbun found that 80 percent of Japan's 47 prefectures have problems with mega solar farms. Part of the problem lies in Japan's FIT system. Under the scheme, the Japanese government awards long-term contracts to renewable energy producers.

Will the discourse about mega solar in Japan continue?

It can therefore be assumed that the discourse about mega solar in Japan will continue for the foreseeable future. The central users, or in other words opinion leaders, are surrounded by their own separate crowd indicating a diverse discourse about different aspects of mega solar in Japan. The groups are, however, not isolated.

How much did Japan lose a year based on solar power?

That amounted to more than 10 million yen (about \$89,920) in lost electricity sales revenue per year. The company operates 14 solar power plants across Japan, and power generation efficiency had been declining at an average rate of 1.6% per year as of the end of 2018.

Why are Japanese people rejecting mega solar projects?

As a result, electricity prices in Japan increased by 37 percent between 2011 and 2014. In addition, much of the energy harvested from mega solar farms isn't used locally; instead, it is consumed in distant urban areas. As a result, many of these communities are increasingly rejecting mega solar projects.

Why are Japanese solar power plants stealing copper cables?

Large-scale solar power generation facilities run by local governments across Japan have seen a succession of incidents in which copper cables for power transmission were cut and stolen. It is thought that thieves target the copper cables to sell to dealers, as prices have been rising due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and other reasons.

Japan's surge in installed solar capacity can be attributed to the introduction of a renewable energy feed-in tariff (FiT) in 2012, following the 2011 Fukushima disaster. The subsidy of ¥40 (\$0.37) per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for ...

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The Yomiuri Shimbun survey showed that at least 42 people were arrested in the Kanto region last year on suspicion of stealing copper wires from solar power facilities. Of those, Japanese...

Solar power plants with an output of less than 50 kilowatts are not required to have a person in charge of electrical safety. Sloppy management has also emerged, so the Ministry of Economy,...

On Dec. 4 and 5, about 1,500-meter-long cables buried underground were disconnected and stolen after a break-in at the Hokuto Site Solar Power Plant in Hokuto, Yamanashi Prefecture. The power...

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Japan recorded 9,522 cases of metal cables theft from solar power plants between January 2023 and June of this year, a National Police Agency (NPA) survey showed Thursday. The survey was the...

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First, the central government revised the FIT law in 2017 to make it clearer that operators of solar power facilities must comply with regulations, and that violators would be disqualified from...

Solutions are emerging to conquer solar power's shortcomings, namely, limited installation sites and low-capacity utilization rates. Japan is spearheading the development of two promising ...

Yotsuya plans to sell the energy generated in the form of long-term corporate Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). The new solar power could generate enough green power for the equivalent of almost 100,000 homes, ...

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