

Cold Water Solar Power Generation Company

Could solar power power Kumejima?

For now, Kumejima depends mostly on diesel fuel, shipped in at a premium, to provide electricity for its 8,000 residents. But residents of the island hope someday to sever that dependency by building a 5-megawatt OTEC plant that with a bit of solar, could cover all of its energy demand.

Can a solar water heating system be used in any climate?

They can be used in any climate, and the fuel they use -- sunshine -- is free. Solar water heating systems include storage tanks and solar collectors. There are two types of solar water heating systems: active, which have circulating pumps and controls, and passive, which don't.

What is a cold-water riser?

UK-based firm Global OTEC Resources in April received its first certificate of approval for the methodology of installation of a cold-water riser--a pipe used to transport seawater from the ocean to the seawater tank and vice versa from an offshore OTEC platform (see sidebar below).

Do solar water heaters work?

They also work well in households with significant daytime and evening hot-water needs. Water is heated in a collector on the roof and then flows through the plumbing system when a hot water faucet is opened. The majority of these systems have a 40 gallon capacity. Most solar water heaters require a well-insulated storage tank.

Two water pits - each to a depth of 15-20m and the size of a small farm dam - store energy as hot and cold water. The cold water pit is "charged" using low-cost electricity and a standard ammonia-cycle chiller. The hot water is sourced ...



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