

Could large solar farms in the Sahara Desert redistribute solar power?

Large solar farms in the Sahara Desert could redistribute solar power generation potential locally as well as globally through disturbance of large-scale atmospheric teleconnections, according to simulations with an Earth system model.

Does photovoltaic development improve environmental conditions in desert areas?

Photovoltaic development in desert areas has significantly improved local ecological and environmental conditions. At the WPS, the Status and Impact scores were 0.182 and 0.11, respectively, indicating a significant impact on the ecological environment of the study area.

Are desert areas suitable for building photovoltaic power stations?

As is shown in Fig. S1, most desert areas are suitable for building photovoltaic power stations when considering three factors: slope, distance from fresh water resources, and solar irradiation, especially deserts in Australia and Africa.

Does PV power station deployment affect desert vegetation?

Previous remote sensing studies of a few PV power stations have demonstrated that the PV power station deployment does not significantly alter desert vegetation (Edalat and Stephen, 2017; Potter, 2016).

Does PV power station deployment promote desert greening in China?

In general, the desert greening (with a significant increase in vegetation) in China from PV power station deployment is largely promoted by the policy-driven Photovoltaic Desert Control Projects. However, the human activities effects on vegetation are often superimposed on the long-term climate-driven variations.

Do desert solar farms produce solar power in four seasons?

For investigating diurnal and seasonal variations of solar radiation in deserts, a data set of high-resolution (3 h, 10 km) global surface solar radiation (1983 to 2018) (27) (Fig. S5) is used to differentiate the hour-by-hour power generation of desert solar farms in four seasons (Fig. S6).

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