

What is the recycling process for silicon-based PV panels?

In this review article, the complete recycling process is systematically summarized into two main sections: disassembly and delamination treatment for silicon-based PV panels, involving physical, thermal, and chemical treatment, and the retrieval of valuable metals (silicon, silver, copper, tin, etc.).

How are non-silicon PV panels treated?

The non-silicon PV panels are treated by on chemical processes to separate the different PV module components and 95 % of materials were claimed to be able to be recovered for use in new materials (PV CYCLE, 2013).

How to improve the sustainability of silicon PV panels?

Recommendations include the use of computer-based simulation models, enhanced lab-scale experiments, and industry-scale implementation to ensure the sustainable recycling of silicon PV panels. Sajan Preet: Writing - review & editing, Writing - original draft, Formal analysis, Data curation, Conceptualization.

What is crystalline silicon based PV industry?

Considering the wastes of silicon (Si) resources, silicon-based PV industry could be the biggest one, particularly crystalline silicon (c-Si) PV module (0.67 kg Si/module), which occupies over 93% of the total production. Among various parts of the PV module, PV cell is the most important part, which uses high-quality silicon wafers.

How much does it cost to recycle silicon PV panels?

8.1. Technical challenges Cost of Recycling: The primary challenge is the high cost of recycling silicon PV panels, estimated to be around \$600-1000 per ton (excluding material revenue) (Heath et al., 2020). Lowering this cost to \$300-400 per ton is essential for making the recycling process economically viable (Deng et al., 2019).

What is the economic value of crystalline silicon PV panels?

The economic value of the valuable metals is \$13.62/m², resulting in a profit of \$1.19 per recycling of 1 m² of crystalline silicon PV panels. The breakdown of total revenue generated after selling the recovered valuable materials is as follows: 46% (aluminium), 25% (silver), 15% (glass), 11% (silicon), and 3% (copper).

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