# Solar panels are afraid of corrosion



#### Are solar panels corrosion-resistant?

For solar panels, this could mean being at risk for rusty racking systems or wiring or even rust on the solar cells themselves. Fortunately, solar panels are highly corrosion-resistant. Solar modules are vacuum-sealed between their back sheet and interior materials, preventing interior corrosion due to salt.

## Why is corrosion a problem in solar cells?

Sandia has studied corrosion for decades, analyzing the problem in all kinds of systems because anything containing metal is susceptible. Solar cells' electrical components are protected from corrosion by encapsulating polymers, sealants and glass, but water vapor and corrosive gases can permeate as materials and packaging degrade.

### Why do solar panels corrode?

Specific chemicals present in the environment can act as catalysts for corrosion in solar panels. For example, exposure to acidic rain or pollutants can corrode the metallic components over time. Identifying and addressing such chemical exposures in specific geographic regions are pivotal steps in safeguarding solar panels from corrosion.

### Are solar panels corroding?

Fortunately, solar panels are highly corrosion-resistant. Solar modules are vacuum-sealed between their back sheet and interior materials, preventing interior corrosion due to salt. This means that unless there is a crack in your panels, you have nothing to worry about regarding your solar modules corroding.

### What happens if a solar cell is corroded?

These gas bubbles can grow and merge, causing delamination, which is observed as the separation of layers within the solar cell structure. The delamination caused by corrosion compromises the integrity of the solar cell panel and can lead to reduced electrical conductivity and decreased light absorption.

### Are solar cells corrosion resistant?

This review aims to enhance our understanding of the corrosion issues faced by solar cells and to provide insights into the development of corrosion-resistant materials and robust protective measures for improved solar cell performance and durability.





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