

How are solar and wind power plants evaluated?

The evaluation of the environmental impact of solar and wind power plants is based on a wide range of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) studies. The comparison between RES and NRES power plants with numerical data is realized with studies using the same impact assessment methods and categories of environmental impacts.

What are the environmental impacts of solar power plants?

Furthermore, the wind power plant releases the highest emission for two impact indicators (human toxicity and terrestrial ecotoxicity). However, impact categories like ozone layer depletion, freshwater ecotoxicity and marine aquatic ecotoxicity-based emission with a maximum for the solar power plant.

What are the environmental impacts of photovoltaic power plants?

The key findings reveal that photovoltaic power plants have the highest environmental impacts in the types of ozone layer depletion, fresh water aquatic ecotoxicity and marine aquatic ecotoxicity, while biomass plants impact on the categories of abiotic depletion, global warming, photochemical oxidation, acidification, and eutrophication.

How will a 5 MW solar PV power plant affect vegetation?

The vegetation in the proposed area for the construction of a 5 MW Solar PV Power Plant is sparsely distributed with a few forest protected trees. The impact on vegetation in the area can be rated as low due to the sporadic vegetation distribution.

What are the impact categories of solar power plants?

However, impact categories like ozone layer depletion, freshwater ecotoxicity and marine aquatic ecotoxicity-based emission with a maximum for the solar power plant. Overall, the hydropower plant releases the least amount of hazardous materials in all ten impact categories. Fig. 8.

Can a 5 MW solar plant be completed without an environmental clearance certificate?

According to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations No. 30 of 2012 under the Environmental Management Act, (EMA), 2007 (Act No. 7 of 2007), the proposed 5 MW PV solar plant exceeds the 1 MW energy project limit that can be undertaken without an Environmental Clearance Certificate. In accordance with these regulations, the solar plant requires an Environmental Clearance Certificate for construction.



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