

Tianhefu Village Photovoltaic Panels

Does community management influence household adoption of rooftop solar photovoltaics in rural China?

This paper examines inequality in household adoption of rooftop solar photovoltaics in rural China through a qualitative study of three villages. The Chinese government promotes distributed solar to drive low-carbon development. However, community management and China's institutional system influence unequal access.

How can China promote distributed PV?

To promote distributed PV, China's National Energy Administration launched a "county-level promotion" strategy in 2021. This strategy sets a target for at least 20% of rural households in 676 pilot counties and districts to adopt rooftop solar panels. The concept of "energy justice" originates from John Rawls' theory of justice.

Should village transformer capacity be increased?

In addition, the village transformer capacity puts limits on how many households can install panels and the system sizes. Usually, only about 30% of households can adopt PV. To increase that percentage, the village would need to expand transformer capacity. The costs of that expansion get divided up and paid by later adopters.

Do local authorities play a role in household rooftop photovoltaic adoption?

The research revealed salient geographic disparities in household rooftop photovoltaic adoption, closely associated with the role of local authorities (particularly village committees) in new energy promotion schemes.

Do community-level support and household resources affect photovoltaic adoption?

We find that structural opportunities provided by communities and households' own resource endowments have an additive effect on adoption. This highlights the need to consider both community-level support and household resources when evaluating photovoltaic adoption and energy justice.

Who invests in roof photovoltaic?

The investors in the collective leasing mode are enterprises. Households and enterprises share the property rights of roof photovoltaic and the benefits brought by its adoption. The lower-level government bureaucracy, as the agent of residents, plays a leading role in the cooperation between residents and enterprises.

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