

Who will bear the cost of dismantling the photovoltaic bracket

Why is it necessary to recycle PV modules?

In the EU, recycling processes for PV modules need to be as fast and economical as mass processes to achieve acceptable costs and meet excellent and certified environmental standards. The recycling costs in the EU are much higher than in North America where landfill costs are low and the disposal of PV modules in landfills is allowed.

Are solar decommissioning cost estimates based on salvage value?

Many county ordinances and individual solar permits have addressed salvage value with respect to decommissioning cost estimates. The Code of Virginia recognizes salvage value and most Virginia counties either explicitly allow for salvage value, or the relevant ordinances or permits are silent.

What are the two types of PV module dismantling?

Two types of PV module dismantling are distinguished: (1) for PV power plants (large scale), and (2) for BIPV and small home system applications (small scale). As discussed in Section 4.1, utility size PV plants dominate the installed capacity in North America.

Can dismantled PV systems be reused?

In optimum cases, up to 80% of dismantled PV modules can be reused. On average, this figure is around 25%, considering some installations have had significant damages due to environmental events such as storms.

What is the cost of recycling PV modules?

The cost of recycling PV modules is predominantly determined by the logistics costs, which are approximately USD\$25/per module. This is compared to USD\$1-\$2/per module for landfilling, according to interview results.

What are the obstacles to an effective recycling of PV modules?

In the EU, the 3R principle is used for waste management: reduce-reuse-recycle. The first step is to reduce either the amount or the hazard potential of waste related to PV modules. The next step is to look for a possibility to reuse the waste material from PV modules in the same manner or in another way.

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