

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Will There Be Enough Cables For The Clean Energy Transition?](#)

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Tweet: Demand for high-voltage cables outside China is increasingly supply-constrained which will soon start to delay major renewable energy projects.

Summary: Sending electricity at very high voltage is more efficient, if more expensive, with losses potentially as low as 3% per 1,000km for direct current systems, which have less resistance. This is about 30-40% lower than for alternating current systems. "HVDC [high-voltage direct current] becomes economic at about the 60km mark" for subsea systems, says Ian Douglas, chief executive of cable company XLCC. Demand for high-voltage cables is booming, with the market climbing from a typical \$3bn of new projects awarded per year between 2015-20 to \$11bn in 2022. This year, the estimated value of new orders is likely to exceed \$20bn before settling at \$18bn-\$20bn per year, according to Massimo Battaini, incoming chief executive of Prysmian. "We are fully booked until 2026/27," he says. Related: Gridlock: How a Lack of Power Lines Will Delay the Age of Renewables

Primary Topic: Energy

Topics: Energy, Investment, News article, Productivity

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