

Introduction to Solar Power Plants

Solar power plants generate electricity by converting sunlight using photovoltaic -(PV) technology.

These plants are clean, renewable, and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

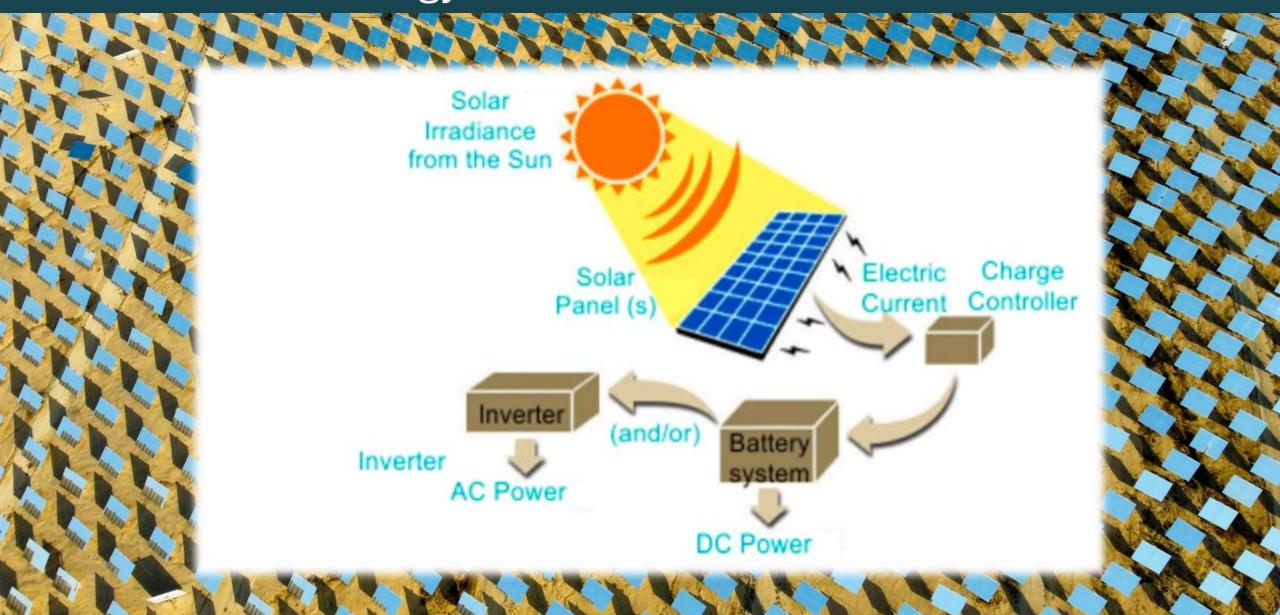
They contribute to lower greenhouse gas emissions and are scalable from kilowatts to megawatts.

The increasing demand for green energy makes solar plants an essential part of modern energy infrastructure.

JAJRU Solar Plant - Overview

- Located in Jajru (Haryana), This solar plant has an installed capacity of 5 MW.
- It is designed to generate clean electricity and reduce carbon footprint in the region.
- The plant uses photovoltaic technology and follows standard solar PV design structure.
- It is expected to produce approximately 7.437 million units of electricity annually.

Energy Conversion of solar cell



Working Principle

distributable.

The core of a solar plant's operation lies in the photovoltaic effect. When sunlight strikes a solar panel, it excites electrons within silicon cells, producing DC electricity. This DC power flows through strings and SCBs, then reaches an inverter. The inverter converts it to AC, which is further stepped up by transformers and sent to the grid.

This process ensures the power becomes usable and

Flow Path Overview

The energy flow follows this path:

Solar Panel \longrightarrow String \longrightarrow SCB \longrightarrow Inverter \longrightarrow ACDB \longrightarrow Transformer \longrightarrow Grid.

Solar Panels

Solar panels consist of multiple silicon cells (60-72) that absorb sunlight and generate DC electricity. Each panel typically produces 30–40V. These panels are mounted at specific angles for maximum sunlight exposure.

Formation of Strings

Multiple panels are connected in series to form a "string," which increases the voltage to around 700–1000V DC. For example, 24 panels at 29V each produce approximately 700V in one string. This is an efficient way to aggregate power.

String Combiner Box (SCB)

SCBs collect DC output from multiple strings and combine them into one cable by T connector. They contain fuses, surge protection devices, and isolators to ensure safety and prevent faults. The combined output is then sent to the inverter.



Inverter

Inverters convert the DC electricity from SCBs into AC electricity. They also include MPPT (Maximum Power Point Tracking) to optimize power output based on sunlight conditions. The AC output is typically at 415V or 690V.

AC Distribution Box (ACDB) and Protection

The ACDB receives the AC output from the inverter. It includes key protection and control components such as MCBs, MCCBs, isolators, and relays. It plays a vital role in isolating faults and ensuring the safe routing of power. From here, the power flows to step-up transformers for voltage elevation.

Transformers and Grid Connection

Step-up transformers are used to raise the AC voltage from 415V/690V to grid-compatible levels like 11kV or 33kV. This step is necessary to transmit power efficiently over long distances. The transformer output is connected to a switchyard or substation for onward distribution to the grid.

Cabling and Electrical Pathways

DC cables carry current from panels to SCBs and inverters, while AC cables run from the inverter to the transformer and grid. These cables are often routed underground or through protected trays.

SCADA System and Plant Monitoring

SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems allow for centralized monitoring and control of plant operations. They provide real-time data on energy output, panel voltage, string performance, temperature, and fault conditions. SCADA enables remote access and enhances operational efficiency through early fault detection.

