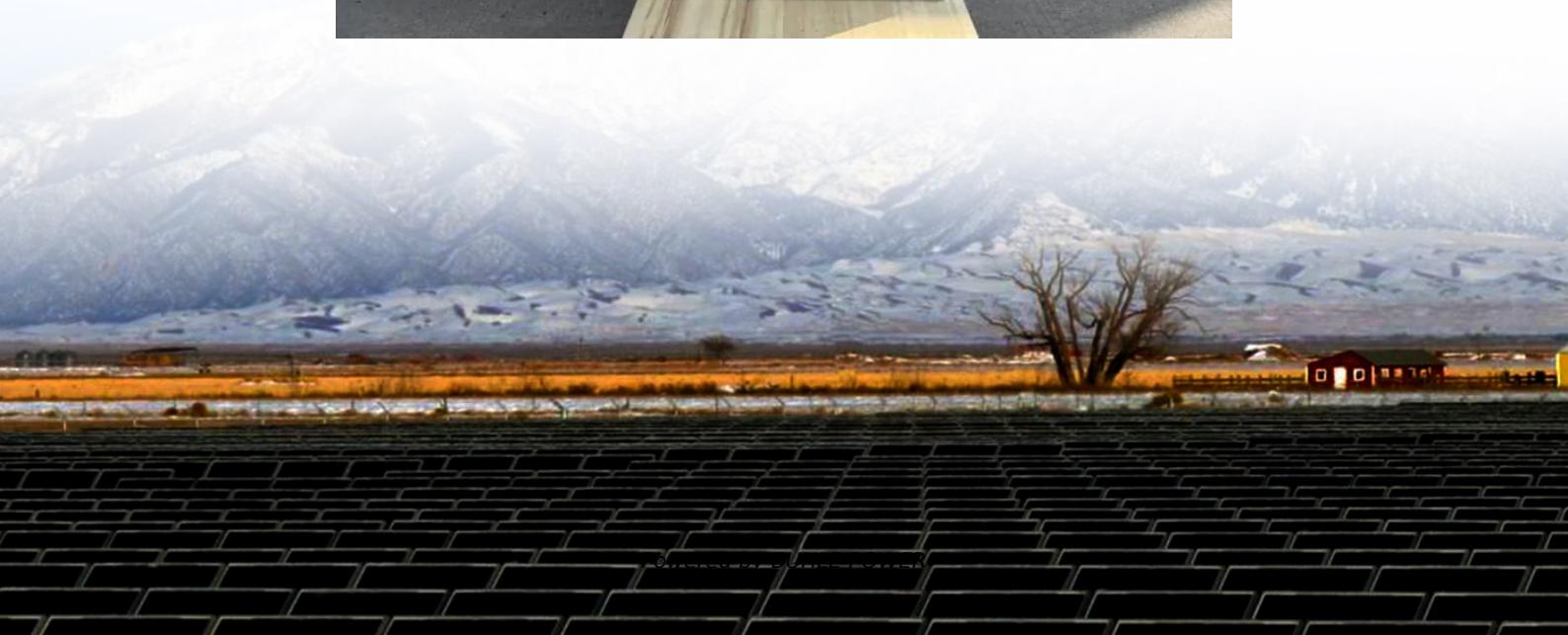




BUHLE POWER

Coal Chemical solar Glass





Overview

What is Solar Photovoltaic Glass?

This article explores the classification and applications of solar photovoltaic glass. Photovoltaic glass substrates used in solar cells typically include ultra-thin glass, surface-coated glass, and low-iron (extra-clear) glass.

How much solar energy does commercial glass produce?

Base-line commercial glass has a solar transmission of 83.7%. I.e. 16.3% of the sun's energy do not even get to the PV material. The energy loss is due - in equal parts - to reflection on the surface and absorption within the glass due to iron impurities. The density of glass is about 2,500 kg/m³ or 2.5kg/m² per 1mm width.

What is glass used for in a photovoltaic system?

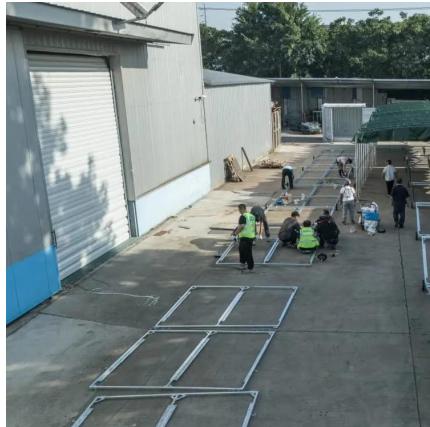
In thin-film technology, glass also serves as the substrate upon which the photovoltaic material and other chemicals (such as TCO) are deposited. Glass is also the basis for mirrors used to concentrate sunlight, although new technologies avoiding glass are emerging. Most commercial glasses are oxide glasses with similar chemical composition.

Can glass be used to harvest solar energy?

The successful application of cost-effective technologies for harvesting of solar energy remains a challenge for research and industry. Glass is an essential element of the mirrors used in concentrated solar power (CSP) applications, where such mirrors reflect incident solar light and concentrate it onto a target.



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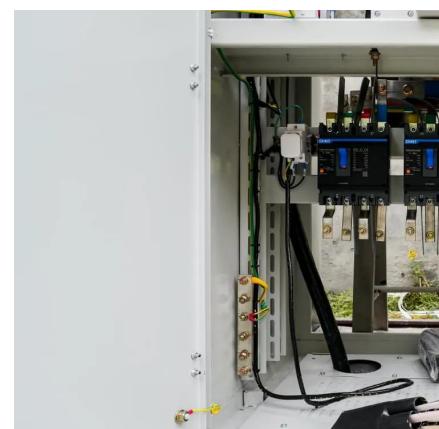


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