Solar Energy

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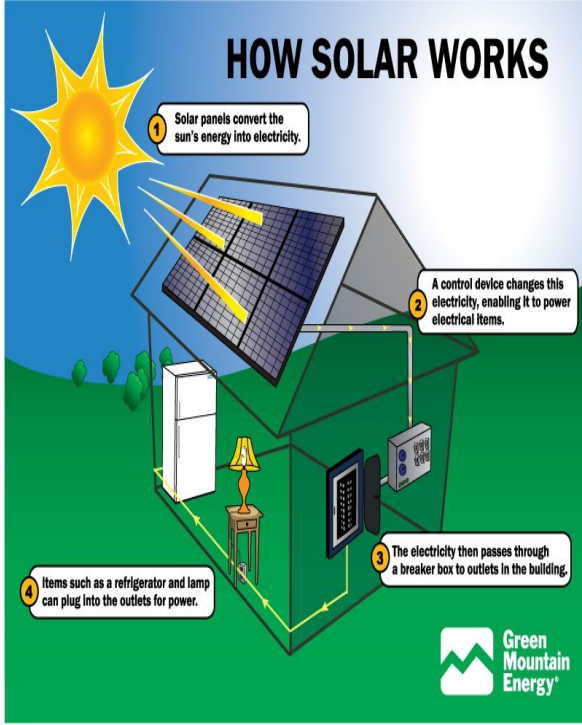


Main Goal of Solar Energy #Solar Panels

The main goal of solar panels is to absorb the sun's rays to produce energy from generating electricity and heat.

Installing solar panels helps combat greenhouse gas emissions and it reduces our use of fossil fuels.

When using fossil fuels they emit toxic gases that are a primary cause of pollution and global warming, using solar energy prevents this from happening.

Solar panels help maximize the earth's resources and conserve energy.

Economic Consequences of this energy

Economics: Solar energy can help the economy in affected areas in the U.S.

Solar energy is less expensive than burning fossil fuels, which is the traditional method of generating electricity

If businesses and households decide to use solar energy to power electricity in their homes and buildings, their electric bills would be cheaper.

Cheaper electric bills can become quite significant, enabling families and businesses to inject more of their money into the economy.

Social Consequences of this energy

When companies decide to build and operate solar energy facilities,it often helps to create numerous jobs.

Jobs can be fulfilled by workers in a state or city using solar energy facilities to generate electricity for the area.

This would help decrease the unemployment rate of the

Environmental Consequences of this energy

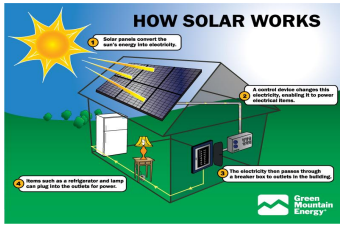
The potential environmental impacts associated with solar power is land use, there is less opportunity for solar projects to share land with agricultural uses.

Solar PV cells do not use water for generating electricity. However, as in all manufacturing processes, some water is used to manufacture solar PV components.

Hazardous Materials The PV cell manufacturing process includes a number of hazardous materials, most of which are used to clean and purify the semiconductor surface. These chemicals include hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrogen fluoride. Workers also face risks associated with inhaling silicon dust.

How does it work /function/operate

A solar panel turns the sun's light into electricity. One solar panel is made of small solar cells. Each of these cells uses light to make electrons move. The cell is made up of two different layers that are stuck together. The first layer is loaded with electrons, so the electrons are ready to jump from this layer to the second layer. That second layer has had some electrons taken away, so it is ready to take in more electrons. When the light hits an electron in the first layer, the electron jumps to the second layer. That electron makes another electron move, which makes another electron move, and so on. It was the sunlight that started the flow of electrons, or electricity



Positive Environmental Impacts

Positive impacts

- it reduces pollution

- Reduces strain of natural ecosystems

- Stops deforestation for charcoal.

- Save natural habitats from oil companies

Negative Environmental Impacts

- It's not consistent

- Depends on the weather

- Solar panel is made out of some harmful materials, such as silicon

- Long time exposure to silicon can cause you to die

Citations

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