Solar power generation costs in the West

2024 ATB data for utility-scale solar photovoltaics (PV) are shown above, with a base year of 2022. The Base Year estimates rely on modeled capital expenditures (CAPEX) and operation and maintenance ...

Historic Low Pricing: Solar costs have reached unprecedented lows in 2025, with systems ranging from $2.50-$3.50 per watt installed, making the technology more accessible than ever before.

Solar power has become significantly cheaper than gas energy, and forecasts indicate further price drops for solar and wind energy by 2030.

In 2024, renewables helped avoid USD 467 billion in fossil fuel costs, reinforcing their role in enhancing energy security, economic resilience, and long-term affordability.

Different methods of electricity generation can incur a variety of different costs, which can be divided into three general categories: 1) wholesale costs, or all costs paid by utilities associated with acquiring ...

The cost of utility-scale solar in 2022 was down 84% from 2010. Solar power purchase agreements in the West were an average of $10/MWh lower than in other regions.

This chart shows the levelized cost of energy generation by source (in U.S. dollar per MWh).

Historical photovoltaic cost data between 1975 and 2003 has been taken from Nemet (2009), and between 2004 and 2009 from Farmer & Lafond (2016). From 2010 onward, prices come ...

For wind and solar PV, in particular, the cost favorability of the lowest-cost regions compound the underlying variability in regional cost and create a significant difference between the unadjusted ...

These benchmarks help measure progress toward goals for reducing solar electricity costs and guide SETO research and development programs. Read more to find out how these cost benchmarks are ...

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