



BUHLE POWER

Price of polycrystalline silicon solar panels for construction





Overview

What is the difference between monocrystalline and polycrystalline solar panels?

Monocrystalline solar panels cost 0.90-1.20 per watt , offering 18-22% efficiency due to pure silicon, while polycrystalline panels are cheaper at 0.70-1.00 per watt but less efficient (15-17%). Monocrystalline lasts 25-30 years with 0.3-0.5% annual degradation, whereas polycrystalline degrades 0.5-0.8% yearly.

How much does polysilicon cost?

That is probably the reason why the “Sun Screen” study from Credit Lyonnais Securities Asia (CLSA) quoted an average selling price of \$24/kg for polysilicon in 2003. On January 1, 2004, an amendment of the German Renewable Energy Law significantly raised the feed-in tariff for electricity from solar power.

How much does a solar module cost?

With a specific silicon consumption of 14 grams per watt (g/W) and a spot price of \$28/kg, polysilicon made up costs of \$0.39/W or 12.6% of the average wholesale solar module price (\$3.10/W) in 2003. Due to the strong demand and the higher polysilicon costs, the average module price increased to \$3.35/W in 2004.

What is a polysilicon price forecast?

Polysilicon price forecasts are usually based on the industry cost curve. In the early 1980s the consulting company McKinsey popularized this microeconomic graph that is ideally suited to predicting the price of commodity products like polysilicon.



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