

How efficient is a solar power plant?

This kind of systems presents overall plant peak efficiency (solar to electric) values in the interval [23-35]%, while its annual solar to electric efficiency varies from 20% to 35%. In the case of PS10, a real plant that has been operational for 13 years, the mean annual efficiency is about 15.4% . Table 2.

What is the thermal efficiency of solar power towers?

2.3. Thermo-economic data Regarding efficiency values and as a general overview, it can be highlighted that thermal efficiency (solar to mechanical) is estimated between 30% and 40% for solar power towers.

How to choose a solar thermal power plant?

Solar thermal power plants for electricity production include, at least, two main systems: the solar field and the power block. Regarding this last one, the particular thermodynamic cycle layout and the working fluid employed, have a decisive influence in the plant performance. In turn, this selection depends on the solar technology employed.

What are the efficiencies of a solar-to-electricity power plant (STPP)?

In this type of STPPs, solar-to-electricity efficiencies are around 25%, since the power block is limited and its thermal performance is in a range between 35% and 38% and the solar field efficiency is around 65%.

How to evaluate solar thermal power received at the central receiver?

To evaluate the available solar thermal power received at the central receiver, the optical efficiency which is the product of the mirror reflectivity, the atmospheric attenuation efficiency, the shadowing and blocking efficiency and the cosine efficiency is proposed as well.

What is a concentrating solar-thermal power system?

Concentrating solar-thermal power systems are generally used for utility-scale projects. These utility-scale CSP plants can be configured in different ways. Power tower systems arrange mirrors around a central tower that acts as the receiver.



Solar thermal power generation efficiency calculation

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