



# North Macedonia Photovoltaic Cell Project Process

Who built the first solar plant in North Macedonia?

The 10MW solar plant, built on the site of the spent Oslomej lignite coal mine, was constructed by the public company JSC Elektrani na Severna Makedonija (ESM). This is the company's first solar plant in North Macedonia, developed with a view to diversifying energy sources and supporting decarbonisation.

How will a new solar plant help Macedonia?

Andi Aranitasi, EBRD Head of North Macedonia, said: "The new solar plant will help the country, which faces severe air pollution from coal, to reduce its reliance on ageing coal-fired infrastructure. It will also generate cheap electricity in times of very high market prices.

What are the decarbonisation plans in North Macedonia?

Decarbonisation plans in North Macedonia are taking a big leap forward. The European Union (EU) is supporting ESM, the state-owned electricity company, to implement a 30 MW photovoltaic (PV) project consisting of 10 MW on a portion of the exhausted coal mine of thermal power plant Oslomej, and 20 MW adjacent to the thermal power plant Bitola.

How is electricity produced in North Macedonia?

North Macedonia is a net importer and domestic electricity is produced almost entirely from ESM's power plants. Electricity imports amount to approximately 20-30% of the total domestic electricity consumption and are mostly required to meet peak winter demand.

What is North Macedonia's energy mix?

North Macedonia's energy mix is dominated by domestic lignite coal-fired units and relies heavily on imports mainly in the form of gas and oil products. Coal is the main source of electricity and accounted for 50% of total generation capacity and 58% of electricity generation in 2019, one of the highest levels in Europe.

Is North Macedonia a good place to invest in green energy?

Dimitar Kovacevski, Prime Minister of North Macedonia: "It is really a great pleasure to be here today, where once a big environmental polluter was located and now we are producing green energy. The benefits of this investment are manifold.

This shift can be largely attributed to increased investments in photovoltaic projects, which have bolstered local electricity production. Currently, North Macedonia imports electricity primarily from neighboring countries such as Bulgaria, Serbia, Hungary, and Greece. In 2023, approximately 9.8 million MWh of electricity was imported at a cost of around \$231 million, with Bulgaria being ...

The Report describes the main project goals, main sub-project activities, photos of the locations where the project activities will be implemented, key environmental impacts from the project ...

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North Macedonia has drafted the first laws and agreements on strategic investments in the energy sector, a model the country is using to facilitate and speed up ...

The photovoltaic cells are placed in a piece of equipment, called solar stringer, that interconnects the cells in a series by soldering a coated copper wire, called ribbon, on the bus bar of the cell. This delicate operation creates the string ...

The first large-scale solar plant in North Macedonia - financed with the support of the European Union, WBIF bilateral donors and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has been connected to the power ...

The future of solar energy in North Macedonia looks promising, but addressing challenges will be crucial for realizing its full potential. Policymakers should focus on streamlining regulatory ...

Macedonia, number 17/11; Article 48 from the Agricultural land Law, Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia number 135/07 and Decree of the procedure for alienation, lease and the amount ...

North Macedonia has two coal hubs with mines and power plants - REK Bitola and REK Oslomej, both run by state-owned electricity producer Elektrani na Severna Makedonija (ESM). The country made the biggest progress in the Western Balkans in replacing coal facilities with renewables.

The first large-scale solar plant in North Macedonia has been connected to the power grid and is already producing clean electricity. The plant has been financed with the ...

The operation is 100% GET and will enable the Company to construct and operate a 30 MW ac solar PV project across two sites on the exhausted coal mine of Thermal Power Plant ("TPP") ...

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North Macedonia has unveiled an EUR8.2bn investment plan for the 2021-2027 period, including EUR3.1bn for the energy sector. The government has completed negotiations with the German wind developer wpd to build a 400 MW wind plant worth EUR500m that would receive no incentives. In addition, North Macedonia intends to build a 300-350 MW solar PV project in ...

February 2023 The Directorate for Technological Industrial Development Zones of North Macedonia adopted a decision to initiate a procedure for awarding a public-private partnership ...

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