



SolarTech Power Solutions

Cost of communication base station



Overview

How much energy does a communication base station use a day?

A small-scale communication base station communication antenna with an average power of 2 kW can consume up to 48 kWh per day.^{4,5,6} Therefore, the low-carbon upgrade of communication base stations and systems is at the core of the telecommunications industry's energy use issues.

How much does a base station upgrade cost?

The upgrade costs include the base station equipment upgrade and platform construction (detailed cost breakdown in Table S8), totaling an estimated cost of 195.450 billion renminbi (RMB) to upgrade all communication base stations nationwide (detailed information by province in Table S9).

Will communication base stations reduce electricity consumption?

Our findings revealed that the nationwide electricity consumption would reduce to 54,101.60 GWh due to the operation of communication base stations (95% CI: 53,492.10–54,725.35 GWh) (Figure 2 C), marking a reduction of 35.23% compared with the original consumption. We also predicted the reduction of pollutant emissions after the upgrade.

How does a communication base station upgrade affect emissions?

(D) Total emissions of major pollutants (CO₂, NO_x, SO₂, and PM 2.5) generated by the electricity consumption of communication base stations before and after the upgrade. Paired bars with the same color represent pre- and post-upgrade comparisons for the same pollutant. Emissions of all pollutants are significantly reduced after the upgrade.

Can a low-carbon base station improve public health?

The results of this study indicate that low-carbon upgrades of base stations can not only significantly reduce the operational costs and carbon emissions of communication systems but also reduce pollution and bring considerable

public health benefits. However, this transformation still needs to overcome multidimensional challenges.

Do communication base station operations increase electricity consumption in China?

Comparing data from 2021, 2025, and 2030,⁴¹ we found that the electricity consumption due to communication base station operations in China increased annually.

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