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Do lead-acid batteries in communication base stations need solar power generation



Overview

Telecom batteries play a vital role in storing excess energy generated by renewable energy sources, ensuring that telecom base stations are continuously powered even in the absence of solar or wind energy. Are solar powered cellular base stations a viable solution?

Cellular base stations powered by renewable energy sources such as solar power have emerged as one of the promising solutions to these issues. This article presents an overview of the state-of-the-art in the design and deployment of solar powered cellular base stations.

What are the components of a solar powered base station?

solar powered BS typically consists of PV panels, batteries, an integrated power unit, and the load. This section describes these components. Photovoltaic panels are arrays of solar PV cells to convert the solar energy to electricity, thus providing the power to run the base station and to charge the batteries.

Are solar powered base stations a good idea?

Base stations that are powered by energy harvested from solar radiation not only reduce the carbon footprint of cellular networks, they can also be implemented with lower capital cost as compared to those using grid or conventional sources of energy . There is a second factor driving the interest in solar powered base stations.

Can repurposed EV batteries be used in communication base stations?

Among the potential applications of repurposed EV LIBs, the use of these batteries in communication base stations (CBSs) is one of the most promising candidates owing to the large-scale onsite energy storage demand (Heymans et al., 2014; Sathre et al., 2015).

How much power does a base station use?

BSs are categorized according to their power consumption in descending order as: macro, micro, mini and femto. Among these, macro base stations are the primary ones in terms of deployment and have power consumption ranging from 0.5 to 2 kW. BSs consume around 60% of the overall power consumption in cellular networks.

Which stakeholders should bear the environmental burdens of battery recycling?

Since battery recycling occurs at the end of the secondary use in CBS, stakeholders in the reusing sector should bear the environmental burdens of recycling. In this case, the two allocation factors α and β are respectively set to 0 and 1.

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