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Southern Europe PV Inverter Avoidance

Overview

Are solar inverters a threat to Europe's energy sovereignty?

The European Solar Manufacturing Council (ESMC) today issued a clear and urgent warning: Europe’s energy sovereignty is at serious risk due to the unregulated and remote control capabilities of PV inverters from high-risk, non-European manufacturers – most notably from China. Study by DNV provides the evidence.

Are non-European solar inverters a threat to Europe's Energy Autonomy?

The European Solar Manufacturing Council (ESMC) has issued a stark warning, highlighting a critical threat to Europe’s energy autonomy stemming from the unregulated remote access capabilities of PV inverters produced by non-European, high-risk manufacturers—particularly those from China. A recent study by DNV substantiates these concerns.

Should ESMC restrict remote control of solar inverters sourced from 'high-risk non-European manufacturers'?

The European Solar Manufacturing Council (ESMC) has urged EU member states to restrict remote control capabilities of solar inverters sourced from “high-risk non-European manufacturers,” primarily targeting Chinese firms, over alleged cybersecurity vulnerabilities linked to grid integration and software updates.

Can solar PV systems be controlled from outside the EU?

This includes limiting remote access and control of the bloc’s solar PV systems from outside the EU via the inverter. These are some of the recommendations made by a DNV-written and SolarPower Europe (SPE) commissioned report titled Solutions for PV Cyber Risks to Grid Stability.

Are Chinese inverters a threat to Europe's remote infrastructure?

ESMC Secretary-General Christoph Podewils warned that Chinese-made

inverters, which account for 70% of new European installations in 2023 (with Huawei and Sungrow as dominant suppliers), now power over 200 GW of capacity—equivalent to “more than 200 nuclear plants”—stripping the continent of “critical remote infrastructure oversight.”.

Is software-enabled remote access to solar inverters a threat?

A recent study by DNV substantiates these concerns. As solar power becomes increasingly integral to Europe’s clean energy goals and energy security, a major vulnerability looms: software-enabled remote access to PV inverters—the essential control units of solar power systems.

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