

Earth Resources

The purpose of this session is to present a cross-section of talks relating to the current state of computer simulation modeling as applied to solar energy systems. This field is of major importance today because of the national need to explore alternative energy sources in a quick, comprehensive, and inexpensive manner.

Since a large scale solar energy industry does not presently exist, the application of these models can save years of time that might otherwise be wasted on unfeasible systems. The models to be discussed deal with:

- Engineering and economic performance of solar thermal and photovoltaic power plants.
- The effects of ownership options, government policies and operating alternatives on the economic viability of small photovoltaic systems.
- The interaction of solar electric power plants with existing utility grids.



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