

Analysis of raw material composition of photovoltaic panels

What is material recycling of photovoltaic panels?

Material recycling of photovoltaic panels is a crucial step in the entire lifecycle of the photovoltaic industry. Currently, the recycling of PV panels is divided into upcycling and downcycling. In the downcycling process, only the aluminum frame, glass, junction box, and cables are recycled, while the rest is landfilled.

Where are PV panels produced?

The PV panel is assumed to be produced in Europe with average European technology. The transportation of each material to the manufacturer company has not been taken into account. The life cycle inventory of the PV panel production refers to average data from Ecoinvent database. Material recyclers.

How are non-silicon PV panels treated?

The non-silicon PV panels are treated by on chemical processes to separate the different PV module components and 95 % of materials were claimed to be able to be recovered for use in new materials (PV CYCLE, 2013).

What is the current treatment of waste PV panel?

(1) Current treatment of waste PV panel is mainly based to the dismantling of aluminium frame and cables, and the further undifferentiated shredding of the panel. The LCA identified some hot-spots of the recycling process.

Can crystalline-silicon photovoltaic panels be recycled?

The recyclable fractions can be used for the production of secondary raw materials, thereby allowing relevant benefits in terms of substitution of primary raw materials. This present report focuses on the recycling of crystalline-silicon photovoltaic panels which still dominate the present market.

What is a life cycle approach to recycling PV panels?

In order to analyse the potential environmental impacts and benefits of recycling PV panels in recycling plants, a life cycle approach was adopted. LCA is a method for evaluating the environmental impacts of a product or service by looking at its whole life cycle.

Download scientific diagram | Composition of typical crystalline silicon solar panels and recovery methods of raw materials [91]. from publication: Application of LCA to Determine Environmental ...

In the past few decades, the solar energy market has increased significantly, with an increasing number of photovoltaic (PV) modules being deployed around the world each year. Some ...

the impacts of the production of raw material and the manufacture of the PV panels. The report shows that, when waste materials are recycled to produce secondary raw materials, relevant ...

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the photovoltaic panels can inform the economic viability of the recycling process (Dias et al, 2016). Most studies examining end-of-life photovoltaics for the recycling process estimate the ...

The disposal of end-of-life (EOL) photovoltaic solar panels has become a relevant environmental issue as they are considered to be a hazardous electronic waste. On the other ...

One of the technical challenges with the recovery of valuable materials from end-of-life (EOL) photovoltaic (PV) modules for recycling is the liberation and separation of the ...

NREL analyzes manufacturing costs associated with photovoltaic (PV) cell and module technologies and solar-coupled energy storage technologies. These manufacturing cost analyses focus on specific PV and energy storage ...

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