

# Is it good to install photovoltaic panels on mountain canals

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With hydrologic and techno-economic simulations of solar panels covering California's canal network, this study shows the advantages of covering canals with solar panels.

These canal-top photovoltaics (CTPVs) will do double duty -- reducing evaporation and producing electricity. While the idea may seem obvious, it has not yet caught on in a big way. ...

The data will help researchers determine if the benefits of solar panels over canals outweigh the high costs of the steel, cable-mounting components, and other building materials. The ...

Their analysis found that putting solar panels over the 4,000 miles of California's open canals could save up to 63 billion gallons of water annually -- enough to meet the needs of 2 million ...

Gujarat, India: The first large pilot used SunEdison and local agencies to install panels on a canal stretch. It showed water savings and higher panel efficiency but also flagged costs and design issues.

The idea is simple: install solar panels over canals in sunny, water-scarce regions where they reduce evaporation and make electricity.

Solar on canals has long been discussed as a two-for-one solution in California, where affordable land for energy development is as scarce as water. But the grand idea was still a hypothetical.

Putting solar panels over canals rather than on land elsewhere can save money, save permitting time, and gives already disturbed land a double use rather than building on undisturbed land.

Erecting solar on top of federally owned canals could be a win-win. The approach limits the disruption to ecosystems, and some studies suggest it actually has the potential to help canals do ...



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To cut their losses, a growing number of Western water managers want to install solar-paneled canopies over canals and even flotillas of solar panels on reservoirs to turn the sun's rays ...

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