

New process for generating cost of solar power

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Researchers at a laboratory operated by the U.S. Department of Energy recently announced that they've developed a new way to calculate the lifetime cost of solar powered energy systems.

The Argonne National Laboratory, with the help of an analyst from Gartner, Inc., have created a metric that determines the "levelized cost of energy" for many types of power source, and measures them against the [cost of solar power](#), according to a report from the ANL's website. Traditionally, the cost of solar energy is described in terms of dollars per Watt, which is an incomplete measurement.

"In typical LCOE projections for solar energy, many assumptions are swept under the rug, and we wanted to make a small step toward lifting up that rug and showing how you can truly get a handle on those assumptions to develop a more accurate picture of the potential costs," Argonne solar researcher Seth Darling, who led the development, told the site.

The new approach may help the government, which is now taking renewed interest in clean energy projects, highlight cost-efficient ways to implement new policies.

Online at <http://solar.coolerplanet.com/News/800393305-new-process-for-generating-cost-of-solar-power.aspx>