

Solar incentives brunei

Dr Romeo Pacudan, Associate Professor in Energy Policy and Management, Institute of Policy Studies published a paper on "Residential Solar PV Policies: Options for Brunei Darussalam."

This study is one of the components of the research project "Deployment of Low-Carbon Energy and Transport Technologies: Policy Options and Implications for Brunei Darussalam" funded by the internal research grant from UBD. The overall objective of the research project is to promote deployment of low-carbon and environmentally friendly energy and transport technologies in Brunei Darussalam.

"Feed-in tariff vs incentivized self-consumption: Options for residential solar PV policy in Brunei Darussalam", Renewable Energy 122 (2018), 362-374,<https://doi/10.1016/j.renene.2018.01.102>

Dr. Romeo Pacudan is the Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Brunei National Energy Research Institute (BNERI), a policy think tank focusing on national and regional energy sector issues. Concurrently, he is an Associate Professor in Energy Policy and Management at the Institute of Policy Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam. He is leading BNERI's strategic and technical research activities on power sector policy and regulation, sustainable energies, energy cooperation and market integration.

Much has been said about the potential of harnessing the sun to reduce the use of non-sustainable energy sources in Brunei. But solar energy has yet to take off in the sultanate.

With its geographical position near the Equator, Brunei enjoys the sun all year round. This led to many experts and the government to conclude that tapping into solar power is feasible in diversifying the country's energy sources.

Universiti Teknologi Brunei Assistant Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Dr Nawaf Hazim Saeid last month said Brunei has "good potential" for solar energy as "the solar intensity is higher in Brunei compared with other countries because of the amount of sunlight it has daily". Solar intensity refers to the amount of sunlight hitting the earth's surface.

"There are a lot of areas in Brunei that can be used to generate solar energy, including photovoltaic panels on top of buildings and houses," he said, adding that Brunei has good potential to utilise solar energy in terms of renewable energy.

According to a study published by the think tank Centre of Strategic and Policy Studies (CSPS) in 2011, Brunei should integrate its energy infrastructure with that of other countries in the region.

Youngho Chang, the author of the study published in the CSPS Strategy and Policy Journal, had stated that the



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ASEAN Power Grid and Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipelines will help Brunei tap into foreign energy supply sources.

Other countries such as the Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia are also investing in solar farms, creating incentives, as well as attracting solar panel manufacturers, the report stated.

Globally, due to the current energy crisis and growing environmental consciousness, the energy sector is shifting more towards sustainable and secure energy resources and technologies.

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