

Project Related Terms		Other Terms	
PCC	Point of Common Coupling - the point in a power system where the electric utility and the customer interface occurs.	MPPT	Maximum Power Point Tracking - an algorithm that is used by charge controller to maximize the available power from the PV module.
Feasibility Study	An assessment of a proposed plan or method.	DC/AC Ratio	The ratio between the PV to inverter power.
FEED	Front End Engg Design - basic engineering after completing the feasibility study.	Clipping Loss	When the DC/AC ratio is too high, the PV array will produce more power than the inverter can handle, resulting in loss of power or clipping.
IFR	Issued for Review	AC Coupled System	DC energy is converted into AC energy. This energy is then converted into Dc energy to be stored in a battery and converted into AC again to be used. (3 Conversions).
IFC	Issued for Construction	DC Coupled System	DC energy is stored directly into the battery where it is converted into AC only when it needs to be used.
IFI	Issued for Information	Irradiance	The flux of radiant energy per unit area.
IFT	Issued for Tender	120/208VAC	Means the power distribution is 3 phase with neutral connection. 120V represents voltage phase to neutral, 208V represents voltage between two phases.
Procurement	The activity of obtaining goods and services for a project.	120/240V	Common voltage in a typical home. They have 2 hot wires and a neutral. 120V from hot wire to neutral, 240V from hot wire to hot wire.
QA/QC	Quality Assurance and Quality Control - to measure and assure the quality of a product.	Peak Load Shaving	A strategy for avoiding peak demand charges. This is done by reducing consumption or using batteries.
EMS	Energy Management Services	Voc	Short Circuit Current - the maximum voltage that a solar panel can produce with no load on it.
AIS	ATCO Infrastructure Services	Isc	Short Circuit Current - measured when the string is disconnected from the inverter.
AES	ATCO Energy Services	Helioscope	Used to design and simulate designs with solar panels.
On-grid	A system that is connected to a utility grid. Ensures you have enough electricity even if your system does not produce enough electricity.		
Off-Grid	A system that is not connected to the utility grid. This means that the system is completely reliant on the sun and the energy that is stored in batteries.		
TSO	Transmission System Operators - carries electricity from power plants to different distribution networks or to consumer. Long distances.		
DSO	Distribution System Operators - distributes energy to final consumers. Smaller distances.		
RFI	Request for Information		



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Other Terms (cont)

Soiling Loss When dust and grime accumulates on solar panels, lowering the sunlight that reaches the solar panels.

Townsend Model A calculator that predicts monthly snow soiling losses based on snow conditions such as snowfall amount, snow events, air temperature and insolation. Less sensitive to regions with lower snowfall.

Marrion Model Uses hourly air temperature and plane-of-array irradiance values to predict when and how far snow slides off and array to calculate the system's fractional energy output.

Andrews Model A purely empirical model tuned using data collected from similar sites. Can use data from fielded systems with this model to predict snow losses for new sites.



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