

Bifacial Module Market Opportunities, Manufacturing Costs, and Pricing Rationalizations Based Upon Energy Yield

Michael Woodhouse, Kelsey Horowitz, Tim Remo, Ran Fu, David Feldman, and Robert Margolis Strategic Energy Analysis Center

NREL Bottom-Up Cost Model Inputs Following GAAP and IFRS

Variable (cash) cost elements within the cost of goods sold:

- Input materials
- Direct manufacturing labor
- Electricity
- Maintenance of manufacturing equipment and facilities
- Fixed (non-cash) cost elements within the cost of goods sold:
 - Manufacturing equipment
 - Building and any facilitation expenses that can be capitalized
- Additional fixed (cash or non-cash) cost elements:
 - Research and Development (R & D)
 - Sales, General, and Administrative (S, G, & A)

Example Cost Model Results for Cell Conversion (Left) and a Complete Module Supply Chain (Right)



Historical, Current, and Example Roadmap for PERC



Example Cost Model Results for Different PV Technologies



- Higher efficiency benefits \$/W balance of module (BOM) costs
- 10% wafer price premium given for the *n*-type cell architectures PERT, SHJ, and IBC
- Industry median 13% of revenues budgeted for R&D plus S, G, & A
- Minimum sustainable price based upon 15% operating (EBIT) margin
- Additional details given in "Economic Factors of Production Affecting Current and Future Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Module Manufacturing Costs and Sustainable Pricing" by M Woodhouse, et al., In Preparation.

Calculated LCOE Impacts From Upcoming Technologies



- Years to broadscale adoption for the given technologies are based upon industry survey results compiled for the 2018 International Technology Roadmap for Phototovoltaics (ITRPV)
- LCOE impacts are based upon reductions in module cost or improvements in kWh_(AC)/kW_(DC) energy yield
- Additional details about this figure are given in "Economic Factors of Production Affecting Current and Future Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Module Manufacturing Costs and Sustainable Pricing" by M Woodhouse, et al., In Preparation. NREL | 6

Indoor and Outdoor Testing Sites Within the United States



DOE PV Lifetime and Proving Ground Sites:

- NREL
- Sandia
- Las Vegas, NV
- Orlando, FL
- Williston, VT

Private Independent Testing Labs:

- DNV GL
- RETC
- Fraunhofer CSE

University Testing Labs:

Arizona State

New Bifacial Performance Modeling Capabilities of SAM

SAM is **free** software available for modeling the performance and economics of renewable energy projects.



http://sam.nrel.gov github.com/NREL/SAM

- Developed by NREL with funding from DOE
- Windows, OSX, and Linux
- One or two new versions per year
- Software Development Kit (SDK)
- Support
- Help system
- Documents on website
- Online forum
- Contact form on website

New Bifacial Performance Modeling Capabilities of SAM

Time series outputs for front and rear-side irradiance for each subarray and total array



Hourly Data: Array POA front-side total radiation after cover (kW)
Hourly Data: Array POA rear-side total radiation after cover (kW)



Ground Clearance Height



Key Variables:

- Ground Clearance Height
- Ground Coverage Ratio (row spacing)
- Albedo
- Tilt

Analysis Disclaimer

DISCLAIMER AGREEMENT

These cost model results ("Data") are provided by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory ("NREL"), which is operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy LLC ("Alliance") for the U.S. Department of Energy (the "DOE").

It is recognized that disclosure of these Data is provided under the following conditions and warnings: (1) these Data have been prepared for reference purposes only; (2) these Data consist of forecasts, estimates or assumptions made on a best-efforts basis, based upon present expectations; and (3) these Data were prepared with existing information and are subject to change without notice.

The names DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE shall not be used in any representation, advertising, publicity or other manner whatsoever to endorse or promote any entity that adopts or uses these Data. DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE shall not provide any support, consulting, training or assistance of any kind with regard to the use of these Data or any updates, revisions or new versions of these Data.

YOU AGREE TO INDEMNIFY DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE, AND ITS AFFILIATES, OFFICERS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES AGAINST ANY CLAIM OR DEMAND, INCLUDING REASONABLE ATTORNEYS' FEES, RELATED TO YOUR USE, RELIANCE, OR ADOPTION OF THESE DATA FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER. THESE DATA ARE PROVIDED BY DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE "AS IS" AND ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMED. IN NO EVENT SHALL DOE/NREL/ALLIANCE BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR ANY DAMAGES WHATSOEVER, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO CLAIMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LOSS OF DATA OR PROFITS, WHICH MAY RESULT FROM AN ACTION IN CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE OR OTHER TORTIOUS CLAIM THAT ARISES OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OR PERFORMANCE OF THESE DATA.