

New solar technologies

■ Concentrating Solar Power technology

Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) technology, involving the use of mirrors to focus sunlight onto a receiver that captures and converts the solar energy into heat for electricity generation, has been in use since 1980s. The CSP technology has, however, re-emerged as a promising new green power technology during recent years with new innovations in different CSP systems and the invention of new solar thermal storage solutions. Many CSP plants are currently under development across the world. Within the United States, CSP technology has been operating reliably for more than 20 years.

All CPS systems require large areas for solar radiation collection when used to produce electricity at a commercial rate.

We are witnessing extraordinary events in relation to our global security and global energy systems. These immediate issues must draw our attention as we know that in the longer term a severe threat of climate change is growing. We will therefore continue to monitor and report on the global impact of the electricity sector and to advocate for an effective and urgent transition to a zero- emission system, which will help reduce our energy insecurity and exposure to geopolitical risks.

1 Read the text and say if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

1. Mirrors are parts of CSP technology.
2. The sunlight is transformed directly into electrical energy.
3. CSP has been used for 40 years.
4. In the last years, an innovative system of storage has been invented.
5. CSP systems are used only in the United States.
6. CSP systems which produce electricity at a commercial rate need small areas for solar radiation collection.
7. Climate change will not get worse in the next years.
8. A future zero-emission system may safeguard us from risks.

T	F
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