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Title: Can solar companies control inverters

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Are solar inverters a threat to Europe's energy sovereignty?

The European Solar Manufacturing Council (ESMC) today issued a clear and urgent warning: Europe's energy sovereignty is at serious risk due to the unregulated and remote control capabilities of PV inverters from high-risk, non-European manufacturers - most notably from China. Study by DNV provides the evidence.

Should ESMC restrict remote control of solar inverters sourced from 'high-risk non-European manufacturers'?

The European Solar Manufacturing Council (ESMC) has urged EU member states to restrict remote control capabilities of solar inverters sourced from "high-risk non-European manufacturers," primarily targeting Chinese firms, over alleged cybersecurity vulnerabilities linked to grid integration and software updates.

Should inverter manufacturers be allowed to connect to European electricity systems?

This would involve: A comprehensive risk assessment of inverter manufacturers. A requirement that high-risk vendors must not be permitted to maintain an online connection to European electricity systems. Consideration of outright bans for such vendors from connecting to the grid.

Are modern inverters a risk?

The risk is not theoretical. Modern inverters are required to be connected to the internet to fulfill essential grid functions or to participate in the power market. However, these connections also allow for software updates - meaning any manufacturer can alter the performance of these devices remotely.

May 1, 2025; The ESMC has called for a restriction of remote access to PV inverters in Europe from "high-risk" manufacturers, mainly those in China.

May 5, 2025; 70% of all inverters installed in 2023 came from Chinese vendors, mainly Huawei and Sungrow. o These two companies alone already control remote access to 168 GW of PV

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