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INSIGHTS

No.2

Hail-storm & PV: and now?

Solar PV modules and hail

- 1. PV modules are generally designed to withstand hail.
- 2. With glass/glass modules & thinner glasses, PV panels are becoming more fragile.
- 3. Hail events are becoming more frequent and intense.

1. What happens to the modules?

After a hail impact, the modules might:

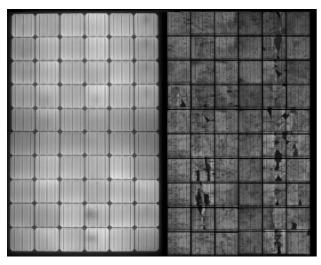
- a) Be intact and correctly functioning.
- b) Present major visual defects (broken glass covers).
- c) Appear as intact (intact glass) but with broken cells.

Defective cells cannot be detected by the human eye and might result in severe PV system underperformance (and - with time - in a safety hazard).

2. What to do next?

If damaged cells are present, it is possible to detect them by adopting the following imaging techniques: electroluminesce (EL) and UV-Fluorescence (UV-F).

Act quickly to initiate a possible legal claim with the panel supplier or the insurance company, before the claim becomes statute barred.









AT A GLANCE

CHALLENGES

- Was my PV system affected by the last hail-storm?
- Act quickly (insurance & warranties)

BENEFITS

- Detect anomalies
- Restore PV system's performance
- Avoid safety hazards



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