

PREFACE

This book is an assessment of the economic and technological prospects for commercial development of photovoltaic material into a viable converter of sunlight into electrical energy. The first chapter is devoted to defining U.S. energy demand and supply until the year 2000, and illustrates the long-term incentive to utilize solar energy. The extent of solar energy falling on the United States in relationship to energy demands is treated in chapter two. Chapters three and four deal with the technology and state-of-the-art in direct conversion of sunlight to electricity. The remaining chapters treat the economics of photo electricity generation, market considerations and projections, and technological and business forecasts to the end of this century.

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