

Top-list of utility-scale solar developers: Buoyant market attracts multi-national utilities

International energy conglomerates are jumping on the solar bandwagon, and climbing up the list of top developers published today by utility-scale market experts Wiki-Solar. NextEra Energy in the US and France-based Engie lead the new installations in 2019/20. Also prominent are Italy's ENEL, SoftBank from Japan, Indian Azure, France's EDF and Neoen, US-based AES and Dutch Shell.

Rank	Project developer	Cumulative to date		Change since end 2018		
		Plants	GWac	Plants	GWac	Rank
1	First Solar [US] inc. Solar Chile	72	4.910	11	1.074	4
2	Canadian Solar [CA] inc. Recurrent Energy	196	4.479	13	0.683	11
3	ENEL [IT] inc. Electra Capital and others	48	3.667	4	0.794	8
4	NextEra Energy [US] inc. FPL, Ranger Solar	62	3.608	21	1.485	1
5	SunEdison [US] (in insolvency)	126	3.058	9	0.400	23
6	State Power Investment Corporation [CN]	55	3.024	2	0.221	28
7	Engie [FR] inc. SolaireDirect, CNR and others	159	2.624	57	1.243	2
8	ACME Solar [IN]	69	2.556	9	0.480	22
9	Adani Green Energy [IN] inc. Parampujya	45	2.421	4	0.350	24
10	Cypress Creek Renewables [US] inc. FLS Energy	208	2.221	26	0.716	10
11	Azure Power [IN]	42	1.663	8	0.670	14
12	SunPower Corporation [US]	45	1.609	4	0.561	15
13	Tata Power [IN] inc. Welspun, Northwest & others	38	1.593	4	0.500	20
14	Scatec Solar [NO]	28	1.550	11	0.914	6
15	Shunfeng [CN] inc. S.A.G. Solarstrom	9	1.534			
16	Électricité de France [FR] inc. EDF-EN, EDF-RE	62	1.517	16	0.675	13
17	8minutenergy [US]	18	1.467	4	0.494	21
18	juwi AG [DE]	86	1.433	7	0.545	17
19	Enerparc [DE] inc. Pays de Montmédy Solaire	189	1.432	59	0.503	19
20	AES Corporation [US] inc. Main Street, sPower	80	1.416	15	0.314	25
21	Trina Solar [CN]	10	1.403	2	0.885	7
22	Neoen [FR] inc. Eight Rivers Energy	36	1.396	16	0.682	12
23	China Three Gorges New Energy [CN]	11	1.280			
24	Shell [NL] inc. Silicon Ranch, ESCO Pacific	29	1.257	11	0.746	9
25	Greenko Energy Holdings [IN] inc. Orange	5	1.200			
26	Abengoa Solar [ES] inc. Abener Energia	17	1.178	0	0.000	
27	FRV [NL] (now part of ALJ)	28	1.175	4	0.506	18
28	Softbank [JP] inc. SB Energy, SBG Cleantech	12	1.142	12	1.142	3
29	JinkoSolar [CN]	15	1.139	2	0.549	16
30	Hareon Solar [CN]	13	1.112	1	0.025	
31	Sempra Energy [US] inc. IEN	11	1.090	4	0.264	27
32	ACWA Power [SA] (part owned by Silk Road Fun	8	1.088	1	0.300	26
33	National Thermal Power Corporation [IN]	16	1.067	2	0.160	
34	BayWa r.e. [DE]	73	1.042	73	1.042	5
35	China Singyes [CN]	3	1.040	2	0.220	29
36	GCL-Poly Energy Holdings [HK]	27	1.036	1	0.022	

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Wiki-Solar's database holds Project developers for 68.2% of active plants (27.1% by these 36 listed companies) so some participants may not be shown, and for others figures may be understated by a factor of 1.5 on average.

Latest list of the world's top utility-scale solar project developers

Leading solar specialists, however, are not being squeezed out – the top two positions for cumulative all-time installed capacity are retained by First Solar and Canadian Solar. Fellow solar manufacturers SunPower, Trina and Jinko have also developed further projects. Other climbers are specialist utility-scale solar developers Scatec Solar, juwi, Enerparc, FRV and BayWa re.



Most of the seven Chinese developers on the list, are sliding owing to last year's slow down in solar project development in China. However, as Wiki-Solar's Philip Wolfe explains "our league tables often understate the prominence of Chinese companies, because of the lack of information about which companies are involved in projects there." Abengoa is another faller, because its main activity is in solar thermal power systems, and CSP has very much "taken a back seat behind photovoltaics in recent years", says Wolfe.

While some developers sell their projects before or after construction, others retain their own portfolio and so also appear in the list of leading plant owners, which Wiki-Solar has recently updated [on its website](#). Some also undertake construction work and are listed amongst leading [EPC contractors](#).

TEXT ENDS

Notes for editors:

- [1] This release on the utility-scale solar market is available here: http://wiki-solar.org/library/public/201027_Top-list_Utility-scale_solar_developers.pdf
- [2] The top-list, with further details of the role of the project developer is shown on Wiki-Solar's website [here](#); beside equivalent details for [plant owners](#) and [EPC contractors](#).
- [3] Wiki-Solar defines 'utility-scale solar' as 4 MW_{AC} and above ($\approx 5\text{MW}_P$ for PV; \approx electricity for 1,500 households in Europe) see: <http://wiki-solar.org/data/glossary/utility-scale.html>.
- [4] '*Solar Photovoltaic Projects in the mainstream power market*' was [published](#) in 2012.
- [5] Wiki-Solar is the leading authority on utility-scale solar with a database covering over 14,000 utility-scale solar projects, of which about three-quarters are operational. All figures are based on the AC export rating of operational plants. Projects under development are excluded until they have been commissioned.

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