

Will more Macao Residents move to an electric-powered future?

EV advocate Leong believes that with a better charging system and bigger availability of charging spaces, more Macao residents will be motivated to shift to an electric-powered future. But he realises there is much work to be done.

How many EV charging spaces are there in Macao?

The city currently has 200 charging spaces across 42 public car parks and seven streets, according to the Macau Electricity Company (CEM), Macao's sole energy service provider. While most integrated hotels in the city provide EV charging spaces in their car parks, they are typically reserved for guests and team members.

Can Macao increase solar energy?

The Macao government also sees an opportunity to increase solar energy. To encourage the installation of PV systems, officials passed a set of safety and installation regulations in 2015.

Does Macao have a photovoltaic energy contract?

The regulations require investors to enter into a 20-year contract for the purchase of photovoltaic energy with Macao's sole energy service provider, Companhia de Electricidade de Macau (CEM). Essentially CEM will purchase the electricity produced to ensure investors profit within a reasonable period.

Does China's Energy Strategy work for Macao?

According to the National Energy Administration of China, the share of clean and renewable energy in China's electricity generation has almost doubled over the past decade, surging from 13 per cent in 2011 to 24.3 per cent in 2020. This bodes well for Macao. "Developing solar and wind energy has become China's core energy strategy," he says.

Is natural gas a problem in Macao?

As a member of the Smart Energy Group of UM's State Key Laboratory, which focuses on optimising clean energy use and production, Zhang believes expanding the use of natural gas poses major problems, especially in the city's older districts. "Many buildings and [much of the] infrastructure in Macao are outdated.

"We hope that Taiwan can also catch up with global trends and new nuclear technologies," he added, indicating a possible shift in policy around nuclear power - which fell from favour on the island after Japan's Fukushima nuclear crisis in 2011. [See more: Google is going to use small nuclear reactors to power AI data centres]

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