

SolarTech Power Solutions

Pretoria Solar Photovoltaic Panel Export Tariff



Overview

On 27 June 2024, the South African Revenue Service (SARS) announced the insertion of tariff subheading 8541.43, in Part 1 of Schedule No.1 to the Customs and Excise Act, " Ordinary Customs Duty ", to increase the rate of customs duty on crystalline silicon photovoltaic modules or solar panels from free to 10% ad valorem. What is a photovoltaic tariff?

The tariff subheading reads, " Photovoltaic cells assembled in modules or made up into panels." The rate of customs duty is 10% (General), 0%/free (European Union/United Kingdom), 0%/free (European Free Trade Agreement), 0%/free (Southern African Development Community); 10% (MERCOSUR), and 0%/free (AfCTA).

Is South Africa facing a new wave of solar import duties?

The solar industry in South Africa is facing a new wave of pressure, as import duties are now officially applied to various renewable energy components, including photovoltaic (PV) solar panels. Although the 10% import duty officially came into effect in June 2024, many installers and developers are only now beginning to feel its impact.

Will South Africa impose a 10% duty on imported solar panels?

South Africa's push for renewable energy is crucial in addressing its energy challenges. However, the introduction of a 10% duty on imported solar panels has raised significant concerns. SAPVIA warns that this decision could lead to higher costs for consumers, potentially slowing the adoption of solar energy in the country.

Will a 10% import duty on solar panels boost local manufacturing?

The proposal builds on government measures introduced in 2024 when a 10% import duty on completed solar photovoltaic (PV) panels was implemented to stimulate local manufacturing.

Why did sapvia propose a tariff on imported solar panels?

The proposal came in response to an application by Amisec (Pty) Ltd, trading as ARTsolar. ITAC concluded that tariff support would enable the domestic industry to improve production capacity, achieve economies of scale, and create jobs. However, SAPVIA argues that the 10% duty on imported solar panels will be passed on to consumers.

How will South Africa's solar tariff changes affect small businesses?

Summary for End Users/Installers The proposed tariff changes aim to bolster South Africa's renewable energy manufacturing sector but will likely increase costs for small businesses and end users in the short term due to higher duties on imported components and the potential discontinuation of the solar PV rebate.

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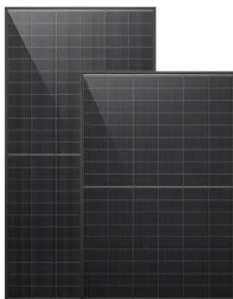


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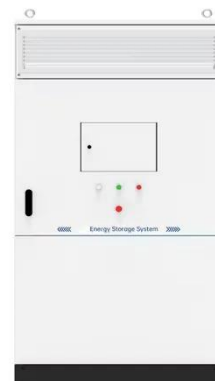


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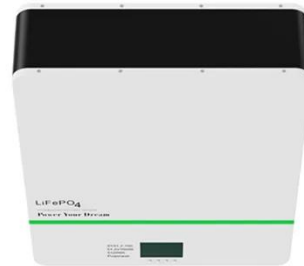
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