## **SOLAR** PRO. Rising oil prices are good for solar power

How will rising commodity prices affect solar energy production?

Rising commodity prices have increased the costof producing solar PV modules, wind turbines and biofuels worldwide. This situation has short-term implications for equipment manufacturers, project developers and policy makers.

Will higher oil prices encourage energy companies to invest in new projects?

Carbon Tracker,a London-based climate change-focused think tank,noted last month that higher oil prices mightencourage energy companies to invest in new exploration and production projects.

How much does solar PV cost per barrel of oil?

McKinsey estimates that even at prices of \$35 to \$45per barrel of oil, solar PV pays for itself--and that frees up more oil for Saudi Arabia to sell. Japan is also becoming a major player. In the wake of the Fukushima nuclear accident in 2011, the government has markedly increased its commitment to renewables.

Will a high-price environment affect oil prices?

The high-price environment could give rise to an increase in drilling and coal usage. Energy companies and governments say they will use the windfall to invest in renewables. Amid an increase in global demand and concerns over key supplies, global oil prices are approaching \$100 per barrel for the first time since 2014.

Can lower oil and gas prices help renewables?

Counterintuitively, there is even a way in which much lower oil and gas prices can actually help renewables. Many countries have helped pay for the cost of fossil fuels through consumer subsidies; in 2012, the IEA estimated that these subsidies cost governments \$544 billion.

Will high energy prices slow the energy transition?

Rather than directly challenging renewables and slowing the energy transition, many energy industry analysts believe that the current high prices - and the associated financial windfall - could lead governments and oil majors to play the long game and further increase their investments in renewable energy.

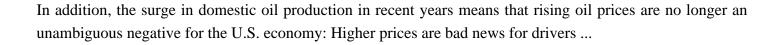
Rising power prices are already impacting operations of electricity-intensive industries. And several companies have temporarily curtailed ammonia and fertilizer production, citing deteriorating margins due to the ...

Solar power will lead growth in electricity generation this year and next, according to U.S. government forecasts, and crude oil production is likely to set new records in 2024 and ...

Crude oil prices were set to close with a gain this week as the risk of escalation in the Middle East remains elevated, OPEC expects strong oil demand this year, and U.S. inventories fall.

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