

### **SolarInnovate Energy Solutions**

# The main reason for the increase in electricity costs for 5g base stations





#### **Overview**

China Tower is a world-leading tower provider that builds, maintains, and operates site support infrastructure such as telecommunication towers, high-speed rail, subway systems.

In Hangzhou, the 5G Power solution deployed by China Tower and Huawei supports one cabinet for one site and boasts smart features like intelligent peak shaving, intelligent voltage boosting, and intelligent energy storage.

China Tower and Huawei conducted joint pilot verification in 2018 and found that the 5G Power solution could support effective 5G site deployment without changing the grid, power distribution or cabinets. This in turn could cut retrofitting costs for a single site by more than.

How will a 5G base station affect energy costs?

According to the mobile telephone network (MTN), which is a multinational mobile telecommunications company, report (Walker, 2020), the dense layer of small cell and more antennas requirements will cause energy costs to grow because of up to twice or more power consumption of a 5G base station than the power of a 4G base station.

Will MIMO increase the energy consumption of 5G base stations?

As a result, there are many more hardware components per base station. Björnson believes this will probably increase the total energy consumption of 5G base stations compared to 4G. But as massive MIMO technology develops, its energy efficiency may also improve over time.

Is 5G more energy efficient than 4G?

Although the absolute value of the power consumption of 5G base stations is increasing, their energy efficiency ratio is much lower than that of 4G stations. In other words, with the same power consumption, the network capacity of 5G will be as dozens of times larger than 4G, so the power consumption per bit is sharply reduced.

How does mobile data traffic affect the energy consumption of 5G base



#### stations?

The explosive growth of mobile data traffic has resulted in a significant increase in the energy consumption of 5G base stations (BSs).

How much power does a 5G station use?

The power consumption of a single 5G station is 2.5 to 3.5 times higher than that of a single 4G station. The main factor behind this increase in 5G power consumption is the high power usage of the active antenna unit (AAU). Under a full workload, a single station uses nearly 3700W.

Will 5G reduce energy consumption?

According to recent research, the ultra-lean design that 5G networks are capable of will make it possible to put more components to sleep for a longer time, reducing energy consumption by almost 10 times compared to current systems when there are no users.



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