

# China Just Built A 250-Acre Solar Farm Shaped Like A Giant Panda

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*The Panda Power Plant in Datong, China. China Merchants New Energy/Panda Green Energy*

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Most solar farms align their solar arrays in rows and columns to form a grid.

A new solar power plant in Datong, China, however, decided to have a little fun with its design. [China Merchants New Energy Group](#), one of the country's largest clean energy operators, built a 248-acre solar farm in the shape of a giant panda.

The first phase, which includes one 50-megawatt plant, was completed on June 30, [according to](#) PV magazine. The project just began delivering power to a grid in northwestern China, and a second panda is planned for later this year.

Called the Panda Power Plant, it will be able to produce 3.2 billion kilowatt-hours of solar energy in 25 years, [according to](#) the company. That will eliminate approximately million tons of coal that would have been used to produce electricity, reducing carbon emissions by 2.74 million tons.



*The Panda Power Plant in Datong, China will stretch 1,500 acres when complete. China Merchants New Energy/Panda Green Energy*

China Merchants New Energy Group worked with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to make the Panda Power Plant a reality. The project is part of a larger effort to raise awareness among young people in China about clean energy, the UNDP [wrote](#) in a statement.

The groups hope to build more panda-shaped solar plants throughout China in the next five years.

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