Design and simulation of stand-alone photovoltaic system supplying BTS in Iraq

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ABSTRACT

The problem of power outages is still present in most cities of Iraq as a result of the wars and crises experienced by Iraq and this makes it difficult to provide continuous electric power to the electrical devices. All telecommunications companies, including Zain, Asia cell, etc in Iraq used diesel generators as an alternative source to the national electricity grid, but this will adversely affect the environment and humans as a result of toxic emissions associated with the use of these generators. In this paper, a standalone PVsystem was designed and simulated to supply a base transceiver station (BTS) in Iraq. A BTS in Jadriyah, Baghdad with 4.177 kW load power belong to Zain Telecommunication Company was taken as a case study in this paper. The meteorological data of the Jadriyah region were taken from a weather station belong to the ministry of Sciences and Technology in Iraq for the year 2017. The simulation for this BTS was carried out using the Pvsyst simulation program. The financial analysis of the proposed system shows that it has small kWh unit price (0.108 \$/kWh).

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1. INTRODUCTION

As a result of the growth of technologies in particular mobile communications systems many mobile communications companies are operating to coverage a great numeral of subscribers. Cellular network operator is required to build more telecommunication towers tocater to the increasing demand for transmission quality and extensive coverage [1]. However due to lack of stable grid power in rural or remote areas, telecom operators face a big challenge. So, telecom equipment is running on diesel generator (DG) or batteries during demand period which leads to a threat of global warming and CO₂ emissions. This increases the focus on powering telecom towers through renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and tidal [2], [3]. So it was necessary to find another type of energy source and the Photovoltaic system is a good alternative source[4], especially in areas where the rate of radiation is high. Iraq is located in the northern hemisphere in Asia to the south of the Equator. The weather in the south and middle of Iraq is sunny almost of the year while it is less clear in the north. Middle and south regions of Iraq considered as one of the greatest solar radiation areas in the world [5]. The west region in Iraq has the highest solar irradiation among other regions with an average of 170 W/m²; therefore it is the best region to use solar electricity obstetrics. In Baghdad, the yearly accumulative universal radiation is (2160-7000) MJ/m²[6]. The largest solar radiation in Baghdad city is found in June and July and it is approximately equal to (240 Wh/m²) whilst the smallest solar radiation is found in December and it is approximately equal to (80 Wh/m²). Several studies like in [7] where AL-Riah, et al., resolve the medium monthly solar radiation in three major cities (Mosul in the north of Iraq, Baghdad in the middle of Iraq and Nasiriya in the south of Iraq) during the time 1971–1985. One of the biggest problems in Iraq through the bygone 40 years is the decay of the electrical network and the shortage of apparatus. Till 2017 the ministry of Electricity failed to provide electricity more than 12 hours a day in most cities in the country. Because of this long time of cut in the electric power made Iraqi peoples depend on diesel and petrol generators as an alternative solution to the electricity outage [8]. That reliance on generators brings about a large use of fuel of poor standard than bring about acute harm to the weather quality and the Iraqi climate. The Iraqi national has started to perceive the ecological danger connected to pollutants resulting in cars and generators [5]. Lessen fossil fuel consumption is the large defy that can be transferred on through Iraq to the utilization of renewable powers in electricity generation [5]. The best alternative power source that can be used instead of the diesel and petrol generators is that which depends on renewable energies and the main renewable energy appearing in Iraq is the solar energy [9]. Iraq has an extremely differentiate site close to the solar region countries allow the country to be given a tall volume of solar irradiation reach to (7kWh/m²) with sunshine ranges of 2,800 to 3,300 h/y [5]. The largest sunshine time found in June and it is about 11.4 h/d, while the shortest sunshine time found in January and it is about 6.3 h/d [10]. BTS has to various indoor and outdoor both types supplied by -48V DC voltage. "Indoor mean refuge room which contains one or two aircondition unit and BTS electronics tools which work for subscribers" while "Outdoor mean the BTS electronics tools which work for subscribers are in one or more cabinet".

PV solar systems Consists of two Main units PV solar modules and batteries as back up at night, PV solar modules usable for 20-25 years [11]. Though PV system tall life span constructs the choice of PV Stand-alone system preferable; the small useable of storage battery growth the cost. Economically the better option is lead-acid (traditional) because of low cost and better execution at its life span [12]. There are many research efforts aimed at using solar energy to equip cellular stations [13]. Mohammed H. Alsharif and Jeong Kim they both study the feasibility of a solar system depends on the attributes of South Korean sunlight based radiation vitality required for a remote cellular base station, Homer software is used to decide the ideal size of the system parts, to work power produce analysis and to break down task cost subtleties [13]. Dike U. Ike, Anthony U. Adoghe, Ademola Abdulkareem, they have analyzed the importance of solar energy as a sustainable point of energy for BTS, the Pvsyst simulation program is used to calculate the cost of solar power generation, the simulation of solar energy systems has been achieved both on-grid and off-grid using the city of Benin, Nigeria [11]. Geetha Pande, Provide simulations utilize the Pvsyst software for on-grid and off-grid systems by looking at the status of New Delhi, India, Sweden and, Stockholm. Pvsyst simulation outcomes appear the cost of energy generation for the on-grid PV system is less comparative to off-grid in Stockholm, Sweden, and India, New Delhi [12]. The sun-powered insolation local map of Iraq gives an idea about the average peak sun hours of Baghdad city. Sun oriented insolation map shows the amount of sunpowered energy of hours (peak hours of sun), be given throughout the day on an ideal incline surface through the more regrettable month from 12 months. The peak sun-powered hours outline is shown below in Figure 1 [14].

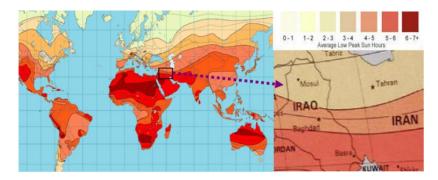


Figure 1. Iraq peak sun hour's solar power.

2. STAND-ALONE SYSTEM FOR BTS

This system contains from PV modules, DC-DC converter, batteries, charge controller and dc load (BTS) and it depends on converting the solar irradiation into electrical signals via PV cluster modules. During the day the PV modules supply the load through DC-DC converter and charge the batteries through the charge controller. In the night and overcast days, the batteries supply the load with the required power. The batteries' string size is vast to cover throughout the night and some shady days. Figure 2 shows the block

diagram of the standalone system is a mix of solar PV exhibit modules which creates direct current (DC), controller and MPPT which control charging and releasing the batteries string and BTS load which including all dc loads. The first stage in the design should be to determine the full geographical coordinates of the Jadriyah area, Baghdad. The average monthly solar irradiation values in Jadriyah, Baghdad are shown in Table 1 and they were taken from weather stations belong to the Ministry of Sciences and Technology located in the same region for the year 2017 [15]. From these values, it is clear that the solar irradiations are very high, especially in the summer.

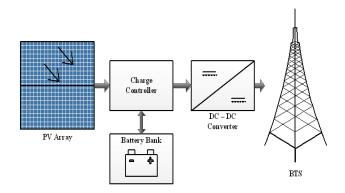


Figure 2. Stand-alone system for BTS block diagram

Month	GHI (kWh/m ²)	Wind speed (m/s)	Average air temp. °C
January	78	2.45	10.4
February	107.6	2.55	11.4
March	136.9	2.63	18
April	162.4	2.94	23.6
May	200.6	2.97	31.2
June	229.7	3.58	35.5
July	222.8	3.63	39.8
August	199.1	3.46	39.5
September	141.8	2.74	35.8
October	103.6	2.38	27.3
November	73.09	2.33	19.7
December	76.9	2.53	14.6

Table 1. Meteorological data of Jadrivah region

GHI/Global horizontal irradiance

3. ELECTRICAL DEMAND

The off-grid PV system is planned to supply electrical energy to the BTS (DC load)in the Jadiriah, Iraq. BTS requires 4.177kW energy to work its loads. Table 2 shows the required power and the time of operation for BTS in the Jadriyah region belong to Zain Telecommunication Company.

Table 2. Electrical load for Jadriyah telecom tower site	Table 2	. Electrical	load for	Jadrivah	telecom	tower site	
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140	Jie 2. Lieeu	Icui Io	ad 101 JudiTydii t	ciccom tower site
Appliance	Power (W)	Qty.	Working time (h)	Energy consumption (Wh/day)
Microwave	500	1	24	12000
RF radio	315	3	24	226680
RF radio	444	3	24	31968
Base band	200	1	24	4800
Fan unit	180	1	24	4320
RF radio	340	3	24	24480

Total daily demand = 100248 kW/day

Figure 3 shows the geographical location of the Jadriyah area in Iraq using the Google Earth program. It is a neighborhood inBaghdad,Iraqalong theTigris River. It lies at the south tip of the peninsula where Tigris River makes its major turn and heads to the north-east. Because of the fact that Iraq is in the northern hemisphere, the best mode for directing solar cell panels is to the south because the solar cells will be facing the path of the sun and thus it will be possible to obtain the highest solar radiation in order to obtain

the best power production of the panel [16]. Table 3 shows the yearly solar radiation with different tilt angles for Baghdad city [16].



Figure 3. The geographical location of the Jadriyah area in Iraq

Tilt angle	Yearly mean radiation (kW/m ² /day)
0°	5.3
10°	5.7
20°	6
30°	6.08
35°	6.04
40°	5.9
50°	5.6
60°	5.1
90°	2.8

|--|

4. PV SYSTEM DESIGN

The off-grid PV system generally consists of the PV array with the in-demand mechanistic construction, storage batteries, charge controller, cables and switching devices. The next subsections explain the design of all constituent in the suggested system.

4.1. PV sizing

The solar panel includes a group of PV cells linked in series and parallel, the electrical power generated by this panel is inadequate to deal with average and big loads of energy. In order to obtain the required load voltage, a group of PV panels must be connected in series whilst to obtain the required load current PV panels are linked in parallel. However, prior beginning to account the number of series and parallel solar cell panels the next information must be known:

(Vdc) The dc system voltage.

- (Tsh) The mean sun h/d.
- (Ed) The mean daily demand for energy in wh.

In the first step in an account, the number of solar panels starts by knowing the average daily demand of energy (Erd) that is found by dividing the mean daily demand over the product of system component efficiencies as shown in (1) [5].

$$E_{rd} = \frac{Ed}{nb n con nc}$$

where:

nb= Efficiency of batteryncon= Efficiency of converternc= Efficiency of charge controller

(1)

The second step is to calculate the average peak power (Pave,peak) by dividing the average energy demand required by the mean sun hours for the site during the day as (2):

$$P_{\text{ave peak}} = \frac{\text{Erd}}{\text{Tsh}}$$
(2)

System dc current can be calculated depends on the values of the average peak power and the dc system voltage as (3):

$$I_{dc} = \frac{P_{ave,peak}}{V_{dc}}$$
(3)

Next, the number of models in series (N_{sm}) is calculated by dividing the system dc voltage by the rated voltage per model (Vrm) as shown in (4):

$$N_{\rm sm} = \frac{v_{\rm dc}}{v_{\rm rm}} \tag{4}$$

The parallel number of module strings (N_{pm}) can be calculated by dividing the dc system current by the rated current of each module (Irm) as shown below:

$$N_{pm} = \frac{I_{dc}}{I_{rm}}$$
(5)

Finally, the total number of modules (N_{tm}) can be calculated by multiplying the number of modules in series by the number of parallel modules:

$$N_{\rm tm} = N_{\rm sm} \times N_{\rm pm} \tag{6}$$

Table 4 shows the PV array sizing step outline for the case study in this paper.

Voltage of dc system (Vdc) = 48V. Mean sun-hours for Baghdad (Tsh) = 6, Efficiency of battery (ηb) = 0.97. Efficiency of converter (η con) = 0.96. Charge Controller Efficiency (η c) = 0.95, Daily average demand (Ed) = 100248 Wh. Variable being specified Calculated value E_{rd} 113320.67 18886.8 Pavepeak I_{dc} 393.5 2 N_{sm} 47 N_{pm}

94

Table 4. PV array sizing. Solar module: CSUN Solar, CSUN 310-72P, 310W, Vrm = Vmp = 31V, Irm = Imp = 8.4A, $I_{sc}^m = 8.94A$.

4.2. Battery bank sizing

N,

To determine the size of the desired batteries, it is necessary to know the estimated storage capacity required (E_{est}), which represents the average daily energy demand times the number of autonomy days (D_{aut}) as shown in (7) [5].

$$E_{est} = E_{rd} \times D_{aut} \tag{7}$$

The safe storage of energy is thereafter found via dividing the (E_{safe}) by the depth of discharge (D_{disch}) as (8):

$$E_{safe} = \frac{E_{est}}{D_{disch}}$$
(8)

The total capacity of the battery bank (C_{tb}) is found by dividing (E_{safe}) over the single battery dc voltage (V_b) as shown in (9).

$$C_{tb} = \frac{E_{safe}}{V_b}$$
(9)

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 (N_{tb}) the total number of batteries can be found by dividing the (C_{tb}) over the capacity of one battery (C_b) as (10):

$$N_{tb} = \frac{C_{tb}}{C_b}$$
(10)

The number of batteries in series (N_{sb}) can be specified by dividing the system dc voltage (V_{dc}) by the dc voltage of one battery as (11):

$$N_{sb} = \frac{v_{dc}}{v_b}$$
(11)

The number of parallel battery strings (N_{pb}) can be specified by dividing the total number of batteries over the number of series batteries as (12):

$$N_{pb} = \frac{N_{tb}}{N_{sb}}$$
(12)

Table 5 shows the battery bank sizing step outline for the case study in this paper.

Tuble 5. Duttery be	link Sizing
Battery module: Narada, AcmeG 12V 200, Cb =	= 200 Ah, Vb = 12 V, Ddisch = 80%
Efficiency of battery $(\eta b) = 0.97$. Number of Da	ays of Autonomy (Daut) = 2.5 Days
Variable being specified	Calculated value
E_{est}	250620
E_{safe}	313275
C_{tb}	26106.25
\mathbf{N}_{sb}	4
N _{tb}	132
N _{pb}	33

Table 5. Battery bank sizing

4.3. Charge controller sizing

The major task of the solar charge controller unit is to dominance the current amount of the solar cells moreover the total current amount of the load with make sure that the voltages of the solar cells and load voltage are the same. The maximum significant point in definition the capacity of the solar charge controller unit is its capacity to bearing the total short circuit current of the array $(I_{sc}^A = I_{sc}^m \times N_{pm})$ and a certain safe factor (F_{safe}). The (F_{safe}) is needful for permitting for a sensible system growth. Therefore, the required charge controller current (I_{cc}) is shown in (13):

$$I_{CC} = I_{sc}^{m} \times N_{pm} \times F_{safe}$$
(13)

 I_{sc}^{m} = The short circuit current of the chosen module Table 6 shows the charge controller sizing for the case study in this paper.

Table 6. Charge	controller sizing	
Charge controller: VarioTrack VT80 - 48V, Studer w	ith MPPT converter, 48V	
$I_{sc}^{m} = 8.94$ A, Charge Controller Efficiency (ηc) = 0.95	5.Safety factor (Fsafe) = 1.25 [17]	
Variable being specified	Calculated value	
I _{ccr}	525.225 A	
Number of controllers	5	

5. SIMULATION USING PVSYST6.80 (PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM SOFTWARE)

By using simulation tools, at variance to sizing apparatus, the user should state the kind and size of all components. The tools thereafter supply a comprehensive analysis of the conduct of the system. In that action for the modeling, analysis, and simulation, Pvsyst6.8 software is applied. The Pvsysts6.8 software pick load required and solar power data and; models PV, controller and MPPT converter and batteries with various sizes to correspond the request. The system designed in this study for the BTS of the Jadriyah area of Iraq consists of a PV system as an energy source. Pvsyst coordinates pre-practicality, measuring and

reenactment support for the PV system. In the wake of having characterized the area and load, the user chooses the various constituent from an item database and the software consequently computes the measure of every constituent. The geographical position of the PV framework utilizing Google earth for the Jadriyah area, Baghdad, Iraq shown in Table 7. Meteorological data were obtained from stations of the Iraqi Ministry of Science and Technology. In the Albedo-Settings tab, the Albedo esteems are set to 0.2 for the solid surface. The particular parameters of the tilt and azimuth edges of the framework are given in Table 8.

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South is 0° as indicated by Figure 4. The PV modules chosse for this investigation is a CSUN Solar. (CSUN 310-72P, 310Wp, 31V Si-poly [18], while the battery set chosse is Narada, AcmeG 12V 200, 12V, 200Ah [19]. The sunlight based way skyline at Baghdad city is appeared in Figures 5,6 and 7 show the simulated daily input /output diagram& (per installed kWp).

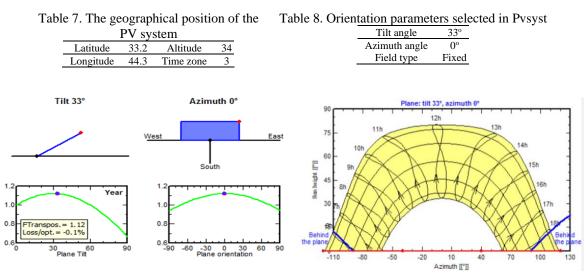


Figure 4. Tilt and azimuth angle selection in Pvsyst6

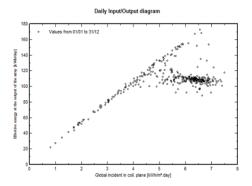


Figure 6. The daily generated power

Figure 5. The sunlight based way skyline at Baghdad city

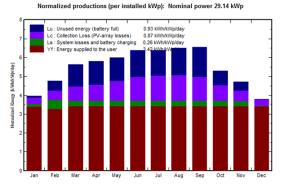


Figure 7. The normalized production energy in the site

A similar work is done by Dr.Kareem, et al., [20] where they designed Hybrid PV/Diesel Power System for Algazalia telecom tower site with 32.25 kWh/day energy consumption; the final design contains 63 PV panels (3×21) (Kyocera-135W) with 63 m² area in addition to two 5.5kW diesel generators each one work for 12 hours per day. The number of batteries in their design was24 batteries in series, (each battery rated at 2V/2500 Ah).

However, figure 8 demonstrates the simulation results from the last report given by the Pvsyst6.8 simulation program.

PVSYST V6.81			17/12/19 Page 1/5
	Stand alone system:	Simulation parameters	
Project :	Analysis and simulation of	BTS powered by solar ener	зду
Geographical Site	Baghdad/AL-Jadiriyah	Cour	ntry Iraq
Situation Time defined as Meteo data:	Latitude Legal Time Albedo Jadriyah	0.20 Ministry of Science and Technol	ude 34 m
		- Synthetic	
Simulation variant :	New simulation variant		
	Simulation date	17/12/19 09h41	
Simulation parameters	System type	Stand alone system with batt	eries
Collector Plane Orienta	tion Tilt	33° Azim	uth 0°
Models used	Transposition	Perez Diff	use Perez, Meteonorm
User's needs :	Daily household consumers average	Constant over the year 100 kWh/Day	
PV Array Characteristics PV module Original PVsyst databas Number of PV modules Total number of PV modul Array global power Array operating characteri Total area	Si-poly Model se Manufacturer In series es Nb. modules Nominal (STC)	CSUN Solar 2 modules In para 94 Unit Nom. Pov 29.14 kWp At operating co 66 V I m	ver 310 Wp
System Parameter	System type	Stand alone system	
Battery Battery Pack Characterist	Model Manufacturer Nb. of units Voltage Discharging min. SOC Temperature	Narada 4 in series x 33 in parallel 48 V Nominal Capa 20.0 % Stored ene	
Controller Converter	Model Manufacturer Technology Maxi and EURO efficiencies	VarioTrack VT80 - 48V Studer Nb. u MPPT converter Temp co	
Battery Management cont	rol Threshold commands as Charging Discharging	SOC = 0.90 / 0.75 i.e. appr	
DV Array loss factors			
PV Array loss factors Thermal Loss factor	Uc (const)	20.0 W/m ² K Uv (wi	nd) 0.0 W/m ² K / m/s
PV Array loss factors Thermal Loss factor Wiring Ohmic Loss Serie Diode Loss Module Quality Loss Module Mismatch Losses Strings Mismatch loss	Global array res. Voltage Drop	Loss Fract Loss Fract	ion 1.5 % at STC ion 0.9 % at STC ion -0.8 %

Figure 8. Simulation results for the proposed PV system

6. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The most significant measurable assessment device for the monetary conduct of vitality frameworks is the cost of cycle life (LC_C) investigation. The underlying capital expense of at all system is the demand cost for buying all system parts; this incorporates PV clusters, stockpiling system, charge of controller,

establishment (counting wiring and different helpers). Operating and maintenance costs (OM_C) incorporate yearly intermittent costs for the system the board, ordinary support and site administration. For nonstop activity and to guarantee proficient system execution, a few pieces of the system must be supplanted occasionally. In the life cycle examination, the examination must be completed by the longest part of the lifetime of all parts of the system. The ideal life cycle of the photovoltaic modules used is about 25 years, while the cycle of battery life can last up to 12 years. Due to the maximum life cycle of 25 years, batteries must be replaced every 12 years. For future estimations, two significant parameters must be considered; the inflation rate and the rebate rate. The inflation rate speaks to the acceleration pattern in the expenses overall system life, while the markdown rate speaks to the reduction in the segments cost with future large scale manufacturing. The cost of the selected PV module (PV_C) is \$62, while the cost of the battery (B_C) is \$200. Charge controller (C_C) costs \$633. For the PV clusters life cycle of 25 years and the 12 years battery life, the establishment cost (I_C) is 10% of the PV cost while the yearly (OM_C) cost is 2% of the PV beginning expense [21]. Specified an inflation rate (i) of 4% and rebate rate (d) of 8%, the system life cycle cost and the unit electrical expense can be evaluated. The yearly (OM_C) expenses can be determined to rely upon the system capital cost thinking about the inflation and markdown rates as (14) [21].

$$OM_{c} = 2\%PV_{C} \times \left(\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right) \left[\frac{\left(1-\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right)^{25}}{1-\left(\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right)}\right]$$
(14)

Because the battery life is 12 years, it is replaced twice in the lifetime of the system. The first time battery replacement costs are calculated after 12 years and after 24 years are replaced again as shown in the (15) and (16) [22];

$$B_{c1} = B_c \left[\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right]^{12} \tag{15}$$

$$B_{c2} = B_c \left[\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right]^{24} \tag{16}$$

The cost of the system's cycle of life can be determined by including the PV module, batteries, battery substitutions, controller of charge, establishment, activity and support costs [23].

$$LC_{c} = PV_{c} + B_{c} + B_{c1} + B_{c2} + C_{c} + I_{c} + OM_{c}$$
(17)

The yearly cost of the life cycle (ALC_C) can be evaluated as (18);

$$ALC_{c} = LC_{c} \left[\frac{1 - \left(\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right)^{25}}{1 - \left(\frac{1+i}{1+d}\right)^{25}} \right]$$
(18)

The unit electrical expense (U_c) in k which can be evaluated from the yearly cost of life cycle and the yearly power produced by the PV system (19) [24].

$$U_{c} = \frac{ALC_{c}}{_{365\times EL}}$$
(19)

EL is the daily demand electrical power for the family, kWh/day. As indicated by the above approach, Table 9 condenses the cost examination of the PV system, the expenses of Cables, Design, Metering, and Control devices are lighted together as 10% of tools cost.

Component	Qty.	Unit cost	Total cost
PV module	94	\$62	\$5828
Battery	132	\$200	\$26400
Controller	5	\$633	\$3165
Cables	Lot.		\$583
1st batteries replacement			\$16785
2 nd batteries replacement			\$10672
OM _C			\$1851.7
LC _C			\$65284.7
ALC _C			\$3957
Uc			0.10815 \$/kWh

Design and simulation of stand-alone photovoltaic system supplying BTS in Iraq (SajaMazin Sami)

7. CONCLUSION

In this paper, 29.14 kWp off-grid PV systems were proposed to outfit BTS in the Jadriyah area, Iraq to outfit the loads through the work time. The design of the PV system was simulated using the Pvsyst simulation pack utilizing the information got from the Ministry of Science and Technology databases for Baghdad. The results showed that an independent photoelectric system can be a good alternative energy system for providing power to the main transmitting and receiving stations of a mobile communication system. Critical analysis shows that the energy used costs 0.1081527 \$/kWh and is small compared to an alternative source such as diesel generators, as the energy used by a diesel generator for the same load costs 0.3641 \$/kWh calculated using the site https://power-calculation.com. Pvsyst simulation shows that the proposed photoelectric system has saved 990,534 tons of carbon dioxide emissions for 25 years.

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