

5.52% Yield Gain of JinkoSolar’s N-type Achieved in the World’s Largest Hybrid Solar-Hydro Plant on the Tibetan Plateau

The world’s largest hybrid solar-hydro power plant, with an installed capacity of 1 GW of solar panels and 3 GW of hydro-power generators, has begun producing electricity in the eastern Tibetan Plateau. Located in Kela town, Yajiang county, Ganzi prefecture, Sichuan, the plant’s first phase is empowered by 287.4 MW of Jinkosolar’s N-type TOPCon bifacial panels and was connected to the power grid at the end of June 2023. After the station’s operation stabilized, a comparison study was conducted between N-type and P-type modules in the high-altitude area from July 15 to August 15 2023, in order to investigate their outdoor performance.

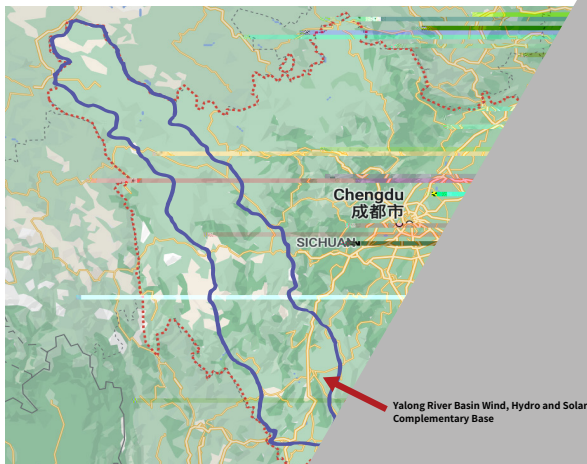
The study revealed a 5.52% yield gain of JinkoSolar’s N-type TOPCon bifacial panels (570Wp) over P-type PERC bifacial panels (545Wp) in this massive project.

Situated at an altitude of 4,000 - 4,600 meters (15,000 feet) above sea level, on a mountain in Yajiang county (N29° 56’ 50.75”, E100° 37’ 1.94”), Ganzi prefecture, Sichuan, the Kela solar-hydro power plant is the highest-altitude project of its kind in the world. It benefits from an annual average irradiation of 6434.8 MJ/m².

Spanning a total area of 28.57 square miles (73,800,000 square meters), the plant consists of 149,000 solar panels with single-axis support and ±45 ° tracking tilt angle and 163 fixed-mounted arrays with angles of 26 °. The distance between arrays is 10.5 meters. The plant uses 149,000 N-type inverters, with each string connecting to 149,000 solar panels. The DC-AC ratio is set at 1.21 for fixed-mounted arrays and 1.15 for single-axis solar arrays. Panels are mounted 1.5 meters above the ground, the lowest production cost in the world. The study is based on two arrays in the same region: one is an N-type TOPCon bifacial array, and the other is a P-type PERC bifacial array.

Component Models	Total Power Generation (kWh)	Unit Power Generation (kWh/kW)	Relative Gain
N-Type 570Wp Bifacial	532046.15	137.55	5.52%
P-Type 545Wp Bifacial	471000.17	130.35	

Table 1: N-type and P-type module power generation and comparison of yield gain



Pic.1: Project Location

The comparison study from July 15 to August 15 shows a 5.52% yield gain of JinkoSolar’s N-type TOPCon bifacial panels over P-type PERC bifacial panels. This can be attributed to the higher efficiency of the N-type TOPCon panels, higher solar radiation (due to higher altitude), lower temperature (reducing temperature degradation). The project demonstrates the value of the investment and the benefits of adopting N-type technology in high-altitude regions.



Figure 2: Comparison of single-day power generation of N-type and P-type modules