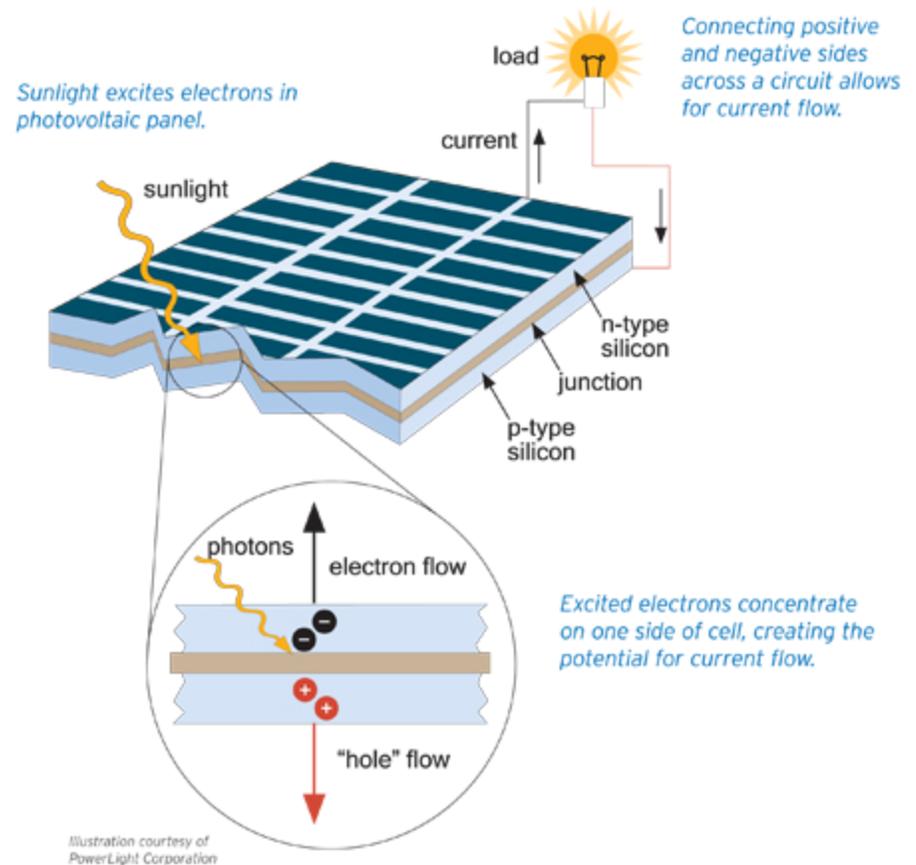




HOW SOLAR WORKS

- Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems convert the sun's light energy into electricity through a process known as the photovoltaic effect. Solar cells produce electricity without fossil fuels, noise, pollution or moving parts.
- The solar cells, made of semiconducting material (typically silicon), are sandwiched between sheets of metal and glass within an aluminum frame. This packaged arrangement of solar cells is referred to as a solar panel or module. When light particles from the sun (photons) penetrate the silicon of each solar cell, electrons are released in the silicon and then pushed to one side of the cell. Connecting the positive and negative sides of a solar panel exposed to light across a circuit allows direct current (DC) electricity to flow.
- An electrical circuit directs the DC power to a separate system component, the inverter, which converts the power to alternating current (AC). AC power is directed to an electrical distribution system to provide power to a facility.
- Solar modules or panels are connected to form a solar array. The larger the array, the more electricity is produced. Solar arrays can be placed in different configurations such as on a rooftop or canopy, side of a building, or on the ground.



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