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DCCEEW - CCP - Linked Solar Inverters²¹ - Pg. 51-52

China's spy threat to our solar energy grid

EXCLUSIVE
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Home Affairs Minister Clare O'Neil. Picture: NCA NewsWire / Marlin Ollman

Australia's fast-growing solar energy grid is being dominated by Chinese firms with links to the Chinese Communist Party, raising fears of the potential for Beijing to sabotage, surveil or disrupt solar energy supplies.

The country's solar grid is increasingly reliant on "smart inverters" to convert energy from rooftop solar panels into usable electricity for homes and businesses. But new research shows Chinese companies dominate 58 per cent of the Australian inverter market, making the devices, which are internet-connected and can be remotely controlled, potentially vulnerable to any Chinese attempt to target the solar electricity grid.

Under China's national intelligence laws, the companies supplying these solar inverters could be ordered by Beijing to sabotage, surveil or disrupt power supplies to Australian homes, companies or government.

²¹<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/chinas-spy-threat-to-our-solar-energy-grid/news-story/92eb1e9558c86d8eb3cd214ee640c89a>