

Calif.'s reliance on solar becoming a problem

By Sammy Roth, Desert Sun

Less than 2 percent of U.S. electricity comes from the sun. But last week, on a cool Sunday afternoon when there was plenty of sunlight and no need for air conditioning, the bulk of California briefly got 50 percent of its electricity from solar power.

It was a record for the Golden State, and it wasn't the only one. The next day, more than 10,400 megawatts of solar power hummed along simultaneously on California's main power grid – 500 megawatts above the previous record, which was set last summer.

The world's sixth-largest economy kept building sprawling solar farms and installing rooftop panels during the first year of the Trump administration, despite the president's efforts to support dirtier energy sources like coal. But the people responsible for keeping the lights on say California's growing reliance on solar is starting to become a problem.

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