Off-grid solar greece



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There are two turbines and an array of solar panels charging. This setup runs everything: fridge, lights and even power tools. Most of the time there is too much power and one turbine has to be turned off.

There's a lot of work to do here, but it's up to you to do it. If you have an idea for a project, then go for it. One project at the moment is to design an efficient heat exchanger to heat a caravan using the heat from the compost.

I'm not really a serious environmentalist kind of person, but I do think there is something hugely satisfying about being responsible for generating your own electricity, dealing with your own waste and growing your own food. Doing this in a communal environment with a dynamic pool of talent and knowledge is a pretty powerful setup.

To highlight the crisis, Craig spent six months last year walking from London to Istanbul! – a distance of 4,250km – meeting city leaders, policy makers, CEOs, academics and activists …raising awareness and encouraging collaboration.

Antiparos boasts Europe's oldest stalactite, at 45m years. Accordingly construction and project management specialist Parostec design modern architecture which is inspired by the areas' heritage and the built-environment for which Greece is famous.

Craig asked them to design a 'green' house. The result is a stunning, uncluttered minimalist hillside home which can run independent of the grid despite boasting a powerful A/C and an electric vehicle charging point.

The grid power supply on Antiparos is not always reliable at peak times – on hot summer afternoons most Air Conditioning units will be switched on, putting strain on the grid. But the sun is reliable, and so is the PV power it can generate.

The three-phase Energy Storage System in Craig's house was installed by Belios who specialise in Solar, Off-grid and Energy Storage Systems (ESS). Vangelis Beligiannis, Mechanical Engineer at Belios is proud of what has been achieved and says:

The next greatest challenge was to make the house in Antiparos capable of supporting all loads with a solar back-up system – without using a generator. For years, new house construction on the island have had a generator back-up and this was not the best solution. Nobody can enjoy a seaview with a generator working … this system is the first in Antiparos to support a such a big house without a generator.

SOLAR PRO.

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