

## ContainerPower Energy Solutions

**Base station communication equipment should be replaced every few years**



## Overview

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Do mobile phones need a base station?

Mobile phones and other mobile devices require a network of base stations in order to function. The base station antennas transmit and receive RF (radio frequency) signals, or radio waves, to and from mobile phones near the base station. Without these radio waves, mobile communications would not be possible.

How much electricity does a communication base station use a year?

In 2021, the annual electricity consumption from communication base stations was 83,525.81 GWh, and it is estimated to rise to 458,495.18 GWh by 2030 (average across three scenarios), with an increase of 448.93% compared with 2021.

How does a communication base station upgrade affect emissions?

(D) Total emissions of major pollutants (CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) generated by the electricity consumption of communication base stations before and after the upgrade. Paired bars with the same color represent pre- and post-upgrade comparisons for the same pollutant. Emissions of all pollutants are significantly reduced after the upgrade.

Will communication base stations reduce electricity consumption?

Our findings revealed that the nationwide electricity consumption would reduce to 54,101.60 GWh due to the operation of communication base stations (95% CI: 53,492.10–54,725.35 GWh) (Figure 2 C), marking a reduction of 35.23% compared with the original consumption. We also predicted the reduction of pollutant emissions after the upgrade.

How can base stations be improved?

Currently, limited research (Tala't et al., 2017) is focused on improving the power supply mode of base stations, such as replacing traditional thermal

power generation with renewable energy (photovoltaic systems, wind power) and equipping micro base stations with solar cells.

How much does a base station upgrade cost?

The upgrade costs include the base station equipment upgrade and platform construction (detailed cost breakdown in Table S8), totaling an estimated cost of 195.450 billion renminbi (RMB) to upgrade all communication base stations nationwide (detailed information by province in Table S9).

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