

## A-Core Container

# Future Communications Base Station Elimination



## Overview

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Will China Telecom upgrade base stations in 2024?

In Anhui Province, for example, the China Telecom branch plans to upgrade 700 base stations with low-carbon retrofits in 2024 and selectively implement an active deep sleep system for base stations across the province at night to reduce the cost of purchased power.

Should China upgrade to low-carbon base stations?

These outcomes demonstrate that upgrading to low-carbon base stations not only ensures economic feasibility but also delivers significant environmental and public health benefits, reinforcing the strategic value of decarbonizing China's communication infrastructure.

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.

Can low-carbon communication base stations improve local energy use?

Therefore, low-carbon upgrades to communication base stations can effectively improve the economics of local energy use while reducing local environmental pollution and gaining public health benefits. For this research,

we recommend further in-depth exploration in three areas for the future.

Do communication base station operations increase electricity consumption in China?

Comparing data from 2021, 2025, and 2030, 41 we found that the electricity consumption due to communication base station operations in China increased annually.

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