module. Increased life can result in decreased cost of solar power generation, which may lead to faster and/or wider adoption of this form of green energy generation.

[0006] One ~~embodiment~~ aspect of the present ~~disclosure relates to~~invention provides a photovoltaic cell, comprising: a front-side layer having a first major surface that is exposed to sunlight and a second major surface that is adjacent to a first major surface of an electricity-generating layer; and an edge-protecting material that covers substantially all of the edges of the front-side layer and the electricity-generating layer~~.~~ wherein the electricity-generating layer has a first major surface and a second major surface, and wherein the edge-protecting material is adjacent to a portion of a major surface of the front-side layer and is adjacent to a portion of a major surface of the electricity-generating layer.

[0007] ~~Another embodiment of the~~The present disclosure also relates to a photovoltaic cell, comprising: a front-side layer exposed to sunlight; an electricity-generating layer adjacent to the front-side layer; and an edge-protecting material that covers substantially all of the edges of the front-side layer and the electricity-generating layer.

[0008] Another ~~embodiment~~ aspect of the present ~~disclosure relates~~invention provides to a photovoltaic cell, comprising: a solar cell construction having first and second opposing major surfaces, first and second opposing minor surfaces, and first and second opposing edges, the solar cell construction including: a front-side layer; a solar cell adjacent to the front-side layer; an edge-protecting material that covers substantially all of the first and second opposing edges of the solar cell construction and a portion of each of the first and second major surfaces of the solar cell construction.

Any embodiment of the present disclosure may include one or more of the following. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the electricity-generating layer is a solar cell. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the edge-protecting material is a multilayer material that includes a polymer layer and an adhesive layer. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the polymer layer includes a fluoropolymer. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the adhesive layer includes a pressure sensitive adhesive. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the adhesive layer includes a thermoset adhesive. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the cell or module further includes an encapsulant layer adjacent to the electricity-generating layer. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the cell or module further includes a backside layer adjacent to the encapsulant layer. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the cell or module includes an edge-protecting material that covers at least s portion of or substantially all of the edges of the individual layers in the photovoltaic cell. The photovoltaic cell or module as described in any of the various embodiments wherein the front-side layer is one of glass, quartz, and a multilayer film.

[0009] Another ~~embodiment~~ aspect of the present ~~disclosure is~~invention provides a method of making a photovoltaic module, comprising: positioning an energy-generating layer adjacent to a front-side layer to

form an energy-generating layer -- front-side layer construction; and applying an edge-protecting material to opposing edges of the energy-generating layer -- front-side layer construction wherein the front-side layer has a first major surface and a second major surface,

wherein the electricity-generating layer has a first major surface and a second major surface, and wherein the edge-protecting material is adjacent to a portion of a major surface of the front-side layer and is adjacent to a portion of a major surface of the electricity-generating layer.