

Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa

Meskwaki Solar Energy Project

November 19th 2024

Meskwaki Solar PV Team







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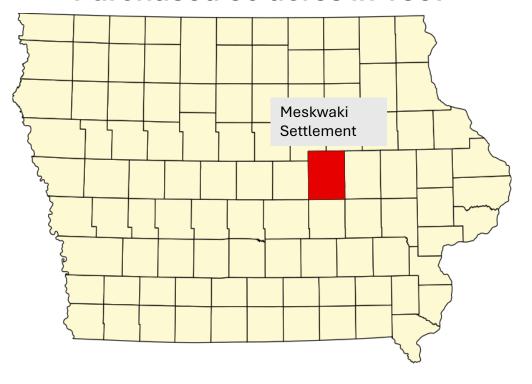
Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa

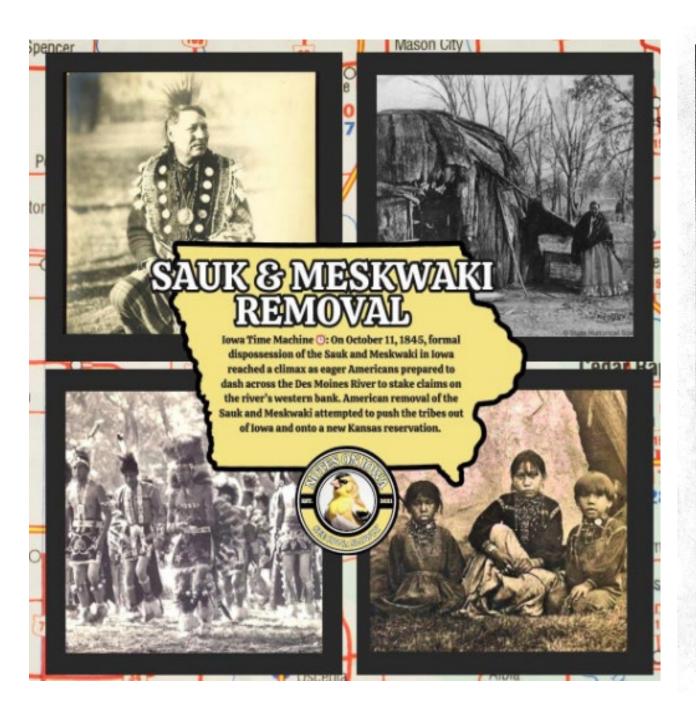
Meskwaki:

The "People of Red Earth" origin from St. Lawrence River Valley in Ontario, Canada.



Purchased 80 acres in 1857

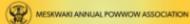




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GRAND ENTRIES





Kindergarten – 12th Grade School 2003



Meskwaki Health Clinic 2010



Tribal Government Offices 1970's



Gaming 1990's





























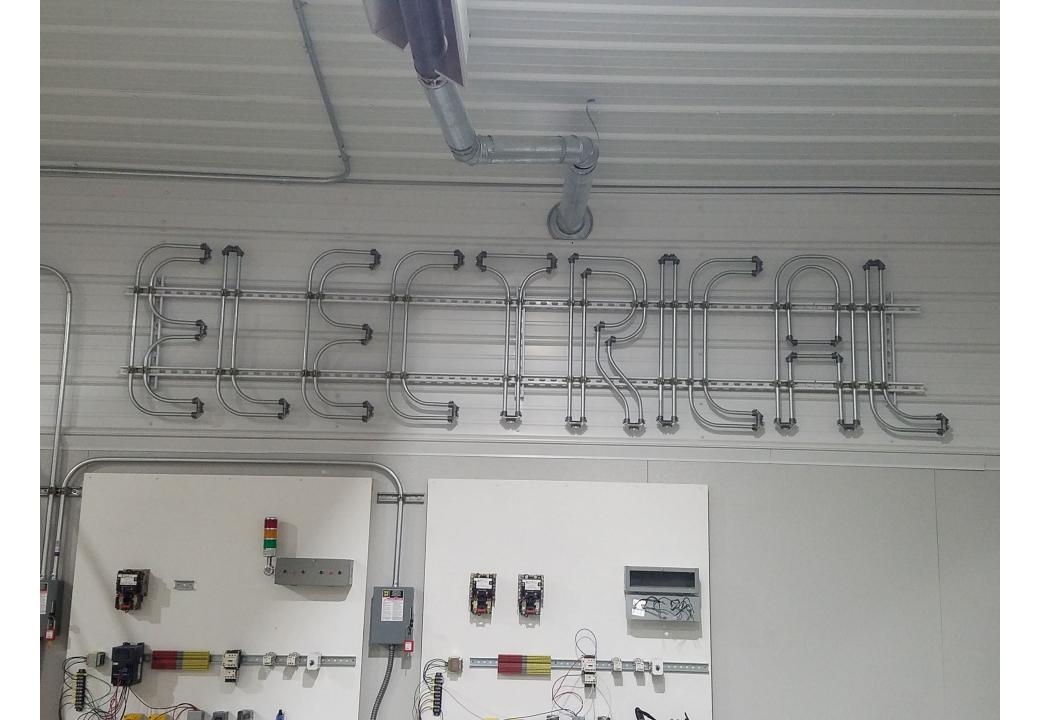












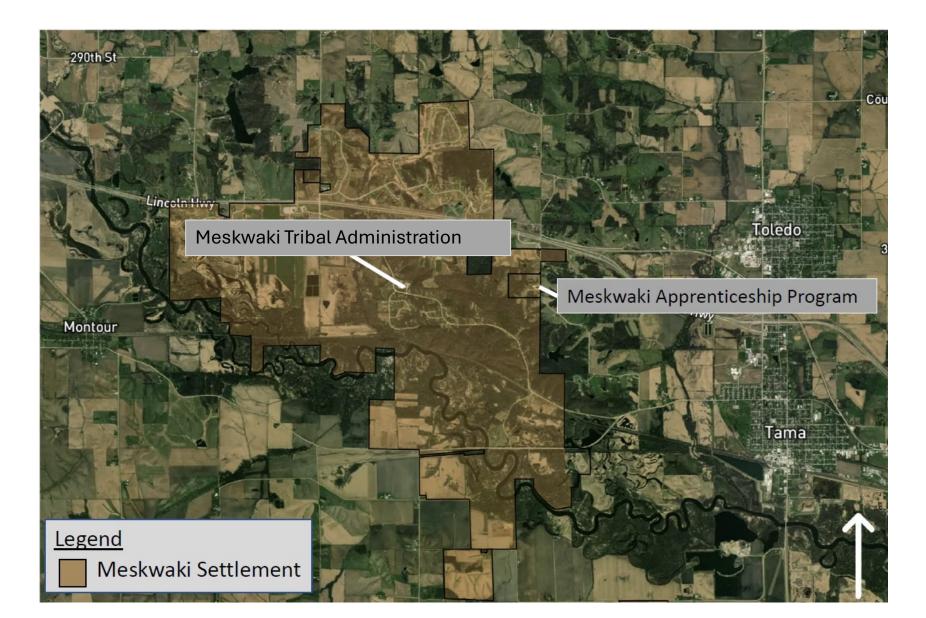
Meskwaki Solar PV Project Background

- Meskwaki desires to harness the Tribe's renewable energy resources to:
 - Reduce environmental footprint
 - Lower energy costs
 - Support tribal workforce development
- Meskwaki partnered with DG Energy to conduct a feasibility study to determine what renewable energy projects the Tribe could pursue
- The Tribe decided to pursue development of facility scale solar PV systems due to restrictive utility policies impacting large RE systems

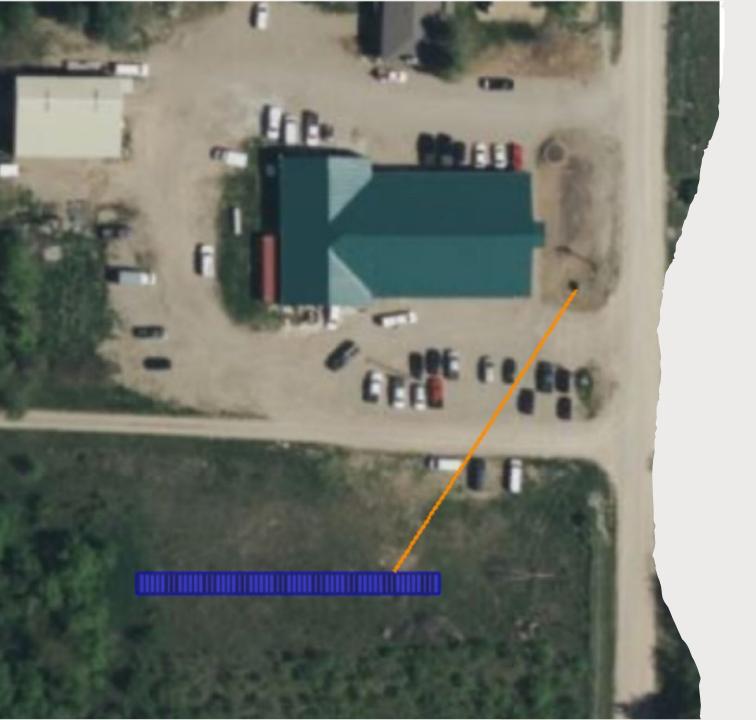




Solar PV Project Locations







Apprenticeship Program

- 45 kW dc nameplate rating
- Will generate approximately 63,500 kWh per year
- Offset 98% of the facility's usage
- Reduce CO₂ Emissions by 60,000 lbs per year
- Decrease electric bill by approximately \$4,000 per year



Solar Photovoltaic Installer Diploma Program

ON-CAMPUS SOLAR



Solar Project Experience



Solar Photovoltaic System Installer Curriculum Detail

pathways and credentials for roof-mounted photovoltaid









IN-CLASS EDUCATION



Alternative Energy

Project Status

We have released an RFP and expect to begin evaluating proposals early next month

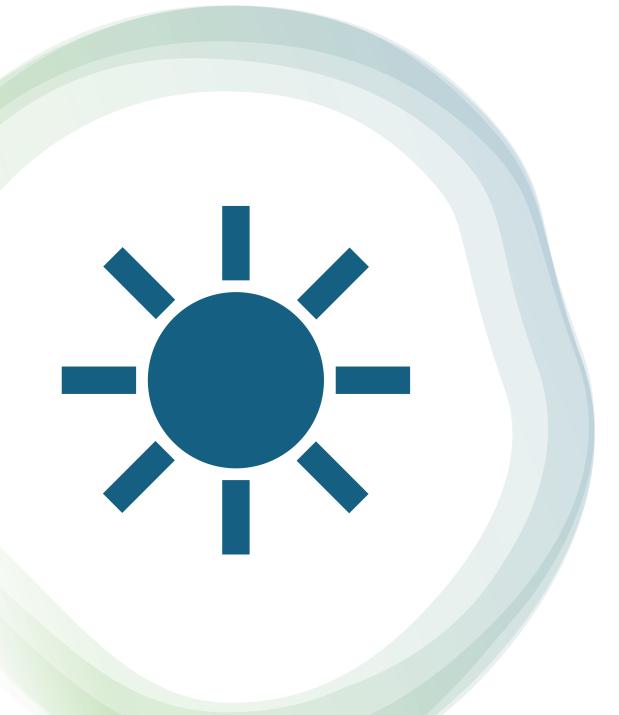
The project team anticipates executing a contract with the selected firm in January 2025



Lessons Learned

Communication across tribal departments is critical

- Project faced delays due to internal communication and coordination issues
- We recommend ensuring leaders of tribal departments are kept informed of the project's status and included in communications to ensure they can provide appropriate support to the project



Future Plans

- The Tribe plans to leverage its solar PV apprenticeship training program to install solar PV systems on additional tribal facilities and residences across the settlement which will:
 - Provide employment opportunities for tribal members
 - Train tribal members in high value solar PV skills
 - Reduce electric bills for tribal members and tribal facilities
 - Reduce the Tribe's environmental footprint

Questions?

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