



DRIVING LARGE-SCALE IMPACT THROUGH COLLABORATION: THE KING COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT

BACKGROUND

The King Community Solar Project in North Smithfield, Rhode Island, exemplifies the results of a multi-stakeholder collaboration to develop the largest community solar project in Rhode Island. Positioned adjacent to a superfund site, the project transformed compromised land into a source of economic and environmental benefits, delivering clean solar energy to the local community.

COLLABORATIVE CHALLENGES

- ☑ **Environmental Safety and Compliance:** The proximity to a superfund site necessitated stringent environmental safety measures and compliance with regulations, overseen by entities like the EPA and RIDEM.
- ☑ **Stakeholder Coordination:** Collaboration was crucial between diverse partners, including Nautilus Solar Energy®, TurningPoint Energy, the Town of North Smithfield, State government officials, the EPA, and RIDEM, each bringing different expectations, regulatory mandates, and expertise to the table.
- ☑ **Community Integration:** Ensuring the project aligned with the community's needs and environmental goals while also communicating its benefits effectively was essential.



KING COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT

FACTS



16.3

TOTAL MW



17.7M

ANNUAL KWH PRODUCTION

IMPACT



12,588

CO2 EMISSIONS AVOIDED (METRIC TONS)



2,801

CARS OFF THE ROAD

STRATEGIES AND SUCCESSES

- ☑ **Unified Vision and Diverse Expertise:** Success stemmed from a unified commitment to sustainability and cost-efficiency, combined with the diverse expertise of partnerships in solar development, environment regulations, and community aspects.
- ☑ **Tangible Outcomes:** Collaborative strategies yielded significant results: offering a clean, cost-saving energy option to over 2,500 Rhode Island households, creating over 100 local jobs, and thereby demonstrating the profound impact of collaborative efforts in community solar projects.
- ☑ **Government Endorsement:** High-profile inauguration attended by influential figures, including former Governor and current US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, highlighted the project's significance.

The King Community Solar Project is an example of what can be achieved through collaborative effort, innovative environmental measures, and strong community engagement. By turning unusable land adjacent to a superfund site into a source of clean energy, the project not only contributes to the local economy and environment but also paves the way for future sustainable projects.

