TED Renewables' mission is to be a committed developer of clean, affordable power generation projects recognized and respected for the creativity and integrity of our staff, the success of our business and the quality of our projects. Maple River Solar is a proposed 160 megawatt solar project from the TED Renewables Team that will create new jobs and substantial local revenue for Cherokee County, Iowa. As we continue to meet more members of the community in Cherokee County, we'd like to share about who we are. We are committed to helping to educate the community by providing regular communications, hosting local office hours, and engaging in local events. In this edition of the Maple River Solar Project Newsletter, we are pleased to share about who we are and provide information about power generation and the electricity grid.

MEET THE TEAM

ELIAS has been working in the US power business for the last 10 years. At that time, he began working for TED's parent company where he helped direct investment in power plants for eight years until he was chosen to be TED Renewables' third employee. Since then, Elias has been developing solar projects in rural communities across the country. Elias lives in Kansas with his wife and son.

JUSTIN started his career working on residential and commercial solar projects before transitioning into utility-scale projects with TED Renewables. He works, almost exclusively, with landowners and communities in Iowa to provide the economic boost that American-made energy creates. He lives in his hometown in Kansas and works at TED Renewables' headquarters.

BEN spent much of his career serving in the Navy as a Supply Officer. While in the Navy, he served overseas in 2007 and again in 2016 -2017. After returning home, Ben began working in the renewable energy industry to help build a cleaner and more independent grid. He has worked on renewable energy projects across the country but now spends most of his time in the Midwest where he lives and works.

ERIN is a resident of Quimby where she lives with her husband and their four children. She enjoys creating opportunities for people to learn new things and is eager to share information about renewable energy and the Maple River Solar Project. She is in the local office, 223 W. Main St., Cherokee, two days a week on Wednesdays, 1-5 and Fridays, 8-12.

Our team is proud to have participated in the following local events.

- Cherokee County Fair
- Rotary Club Presentation
- Halloween Parade
- Carriage Rides during the Fall Festival
- Office Warming/Ribbon Cutting – Our local office located at 223 W. Main St, Cherokee is staffed by Erin Rydgren two days a week.
- Public Information Meeting – We held a public information meeting at the local office in November to talk with the community about our project.
- Cherokee Chamber Coffee – In December 2024, we hosted the chamber coffee at the local office and provided an overview of the project for those in attendance.
- Lighted Christmas Parade – Maple River created a float for the parade.
- Future Ready Day Cherokee High School – Last month, we visited the Cherokee High School to share information about jobs in the industry at their Future Ready Day, an interactive career fair.

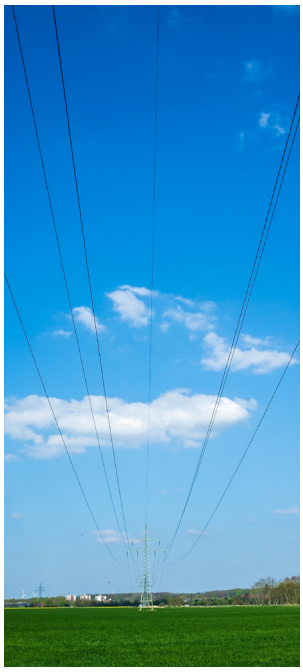
When you see us in the community, please introduce yourselves and feel free to ask any questions about the Maple River Solar Project. We look forward to meeting you!

POWER GENERATION & TRANSMISSION
WHERE DOES ELECTRICITY COME FROM?

Since 2008, Iowa has generated more electricity each year than the state consumed, exporting excess power to other states and reaping the rewards of its robust energy sector. This energy abundance helps Iowa to rank among the 10 states with the lowest average electricity price and renewables play a large role. As the second-largest wind producing state, wind energy contributed 59% of Iowa's net generation in 2023.[1] But, how do Iowa customers receive power? Whether it's from a nearby coal or natural gas plant, wind project, solar facility, or other generation source, ALL utility-scale power is transmitted through the grid, which is comprised of substations, transformers, and power lines that connect the source of generation (supply) to the public consumer (demand), typically by way of a public utility company.[2]

After most utility-scale power is generated – via coal, natural gas, wind, solar, etc. – it is routed to the grid. For Iowa and other states of the Midwest, MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator) is the regional transmission organization that oversees the movement of electricity from Minnesota to Louisiana.[3] Similar to what Air Traffic Control does for the aviation field, MISO is the balancing authority, safely balancing supply to demand. They coordinate a roster of power plants to ensure there is enough supply to meet the needs of the consumer throughout the year.

Power on the grid moves along the path of least resistance. If there is an energy need close to a generation site, the need will likely be fulfilled by that generation source. Once all the needs for energy near the generation site are fulfilled, energy will continue down the line to meet other energy demands. This is how it's possible for Iowa to be an energy exporter. Utility-scale power generation supplied to the local grid boosts the local economy through new jobs, substantial new tax revenue and drought-proof lease payments while bolstering the resilience of the local energy system.
If you'd like to know more about how the electric grid works, visit:
https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/energy/power.htm



FROM SOURCE TO DEMAND

Solar panels harvest energy from the sun. That energy is converted from direct current (DC) power to alternating current (AC) power by an inverter, which is located within the array, set back from the project's perimeter fencing. The power is then transported via medium-voltage cabling (typically underground) to the project substation, where the voltage is subsequently increased before being routed onto nearby transmission lines. The transmission lines transport the power to where there is demand locally, in neighboring communities, or across the state. Before power being transmitted by high-voltage transmission lines can serve your home or business needs, the voltage is lowered through utility-owned substations or transformers and then routed to distribution lines connected to each consumer to supply you with power.

Tracking every electron from generation source to consumer is impossible, but we can be certain that the economic benefits of Maple River Solar will stay in Cherokee County.

1. https://www.eia.gov/state/analysis.php?sid=IA
2. https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/electricity/delivery-to-consumers.php
3. https://www.misoenergy.org/about/

MORE INFORMATION

LOCAL REP: **ERIN RYDGREN**

OFFICE HOURS:
WEDNESDAY, 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M., FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M., OR BY APPOINTMENT

EMAIL: **info@mapleriversolar.com**

PHONE: **712-522-5128**

WEBSITE: **mapleriversolar.com** | **MapleRiverSolar**

MAPLE RIVER SOLAR