

Frequently Asked Questions

1. *What type of project will Saturn be building, and what size will it be?*

The project will be a solar photovoltaic (PV) project with a fixed-tilt system. This project will be a 10 MW facility, utilizing between 65 and 85 acres in the Rural Municipality of Coulee. Saturn's core expertise is in projects of this size. We have built multiple projects of this size nationally and internationally.

2. *How will it impact surrounding landowners?*

There will be very little impact on surrounding landowners. The project's visibility from the road will be limited, which will mitigate the visual impact to surrounding landowners.

3. *What are the community benefits?*

This project will offer short and long-term opportunities for employment. The project will generate property tax revenue for the Rural Municipality of Coulee. We will provide reliable and renewable energy to residents.

4. *Who will you be hiring?*

We will hire civil, electrical and mechanical engineers, as well as a General Contractor, who may hire local construction and general labor during the construction phase. When the site is operational, we will continue working with electrical and mechanical engineers, as well as general laborers to maintain the site as required.

5. *How will it impact wildlife?*

We studied the wildlife and plants at the site to determine the potential impacts. This site was deemed to NOT be a development by the SK Ministry of Environment, as it was found to have negligible impact on local wildlife. The land will also be returned to its previous state after decommissioning the project.

6. *Is it possible to allow grazing between the rows of panels?*

Yes, however the only animals that would be compatible for this co-use of the land are sheep; this is largely due to their behavior and nature. No other animals can be allowed to graze between the rows of panels due to high risk of equipment damage and safety.

7. *How will construction impact traffic?*

During construction, there will be a temporary increase in traffic. We will review traffic laws, permits and customs with the Rural Municipality of Coulee, in order to develop a schedule which mitigates the impact that this traffic will have on the community.

8. *Will the project make noise?*

There will be an inherent increase in noise in the direct vicinity of the project throughout the construction phase. However, this will only occur during business hours on weekdays. During Operation, the Project will emit very little noise.

9. *What type of fencing will be built around the site? How will the facility be secured?*

We typically use chain link fencing with barbed wire. Ultimately, we will follow the RM's screening and fencing regulations. There will be a security camera on the premise and only authorized personnel will be able to access the site.

10. *Will there be additional buildings at the facility?*

There will not be any buildings constructed, other than a small maintenance building, as we aim at maintaining the appearance of this community as much as possible.

11. *Will Saturn replace the topsoil if removed?*

We will not remove topsoil from the site when preparing it for construction of the project.

12. *During construction, how deep do you drive the support posts/piles into the ground?*

The piles will be driven 13ft into the ground.

13. *Once the posts/piles are in the ground, how high do the panels sit off the ground?*

The panels will sit on a 30-degree angle, with the lowest portion being 30 inches off the ground, with the highest point being approximately 9ft off the ground.

14. *How will the solar array and project area be maintained after the project is built?*

Saturn will create an in-house operations and maintenance (O&M) team that will be dedicated to operating and maintaining the solar facility and facility area over its lifetime. Our O&M team will work with local contractors from the RM and surrounding areas, to ensure that the facility is operating according to standards, the grass is cut low and snow is removed promptly after snowstorms, and that all preventative, corrective and condition-based maintenance activities are carried out accordingly.

15. *Will the solar panels hold up during storms/tornados? How?*

Saturn ensures that our solar projects are designed and built to a very conservative code, and we have added layers of safety factor for storms in the designs. Our solar project in Bermuda withstood and survived a recent large storm event (Hurricane Humberto in September 2019) relatively unscathed. We have many operating projects in both southern and northern Ontario which hold up well against harsh winter weather.

16. *What happens after the solar project operation has come to an end?*

At the end of the 20-year power purchase agreement, SaskPower has a purchase option to purchase the solar facility, otherwise, Saturn will decommission the project according to our decommissioning plan. The decommissioning plan will ensure that the site is returned to its original state prior to the solar project construction.

17. *How can I learn more?*

Email us at highfield.solarproject@saturnpower.com or calling our toll-free number at 1 (866) 961-8654 ext. 131. Let us know if you are interested in receiving our Highfield Solar Project newsletter.

Should I be concerned about potential soil contamination from heavy metals including Cadmium-Telluride and Lead from broken solar modules?

Protection of the natural environment is of paramount importance to Saturn Power. Our background in agriculture allows us to better understand the potential impacts of solar project construction on an agricultural field. Our construction methods preserve topsoil and we are committed to ensuring that at the end of the project life, the property can and will be returned to its original condition or better.

We have heard from the public about the concern for broken or cracked solar modules to cause a risk of soil contamination specifically from Cadmium-Telluride.

It is important to note that our Project will use Mono-Crystalline Silicon solar cells which do not contain Cadmium-Telluride. There are multiple types of solar module technology available in the market. The concern over modules containing Cadmium-Telluride (CdTe) comes from a particular type of technology called 'Thin Film' solar modules. This type of module is composed of CdTe solar cells sandwiched between glass. The module is frameless, flexible and typically has a lower voltage and efficiency rating than mono-crystalline modules. These modules are rarely used in utility scale solar PV systems because they have a lower efficiency than mono-crystalline modules.

The solar modules we are using for the Highfield Solar Project will only use Mono-Crystalline Silicon cells because they are safer, and the modules have better structural integrity when subjected to variable environmental conditions.