Prepared for:  
ITS221 Project Management   
Helena College

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# Helena Community Solar Installation Project

## Project Proposal

Project Overview

The Helena Community Solar Installation Project aims to design, construct, and commission a community-owned solar array in Helena, providing residents and local facilities with access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy. Through this initiative, Helena will reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, lower electricity costs for community members, and actively contribute to environmental preservation. This project will also strengthen community engagement and foster local economic development through job creation and skills training.

Project Objectives

* Deploy Renewable Energy Infrastructure: Install a reliable and efficient solar array system tailored to Helena's energy needs.
* Lower Energy Costs: Provide sustainable savings on utility bills for the community.
* Reduce Carbon Emissions: Support Helena’s transition to a greener, more sustainable energy mix.
* Empower the Community: Engage local residents through education, outreach, and participation in project development.
* Stimulate Local Economy: Create green jobs and training opportunities in solar technology and system maintenance.

Project Scope

The project encompasses all phases of solar array development, including:

* Feasibility study and site assessment
* Detailed system design and engineering
* Procurement of solar panels and related equipment
* Construction and installation of the solar array
* System testing, commissioning, and grid connection
* Community engagement and training programs
* Operational handover and ongoing maintenance planning

Key Benefits

* Economic Savings: Reduced energy bills for community facilities and residents
* Environmental Impact: Contribution to Helena’s sustainability and climate goals
* Community Ownership: Enhanced community pride and participation
* Educational Opportunities: Public awareness campaigns and technical training for residents
* Scalability: Establishing a model for future renewable energy projects in Helena

Project Timeline

Estimated Duration: 12 months  
Phases:

* Months 1–3: Planning, site assessment, and design
* Months 4–6: Procurement and permitting
* Months 7–10: Construction and system installation
* Months 11–12: Testing, commissioning, and project closeout

Estimated Budget

Total Budget: $450,000  
Includes equipment costs, labor, permits, community outreach, and quality assurance measures.

Project Team and Stakeholders

* Project Sponsor: Dr. Linda Thornton
* Project Manager: Mark Ellis
* Technical Lead: Carla Mendoza
* Steering Committee: Helena Sustainability Council
* Community Stakeholders: Helena residents and local businesses
* Customer: The Helena Community

Risks and Mitigation

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| **Risk** | **Mitigation Strategy** |
| Weather delays | Schedule flexibility and buffer time |
| Supply chain disruptions | Multiple vendor contracts and early procurement |
| Community engagement gaps | Regular updates, workshops, and feedback loops |
| Regulatory approvals | Early engagement with permitting authorities |

Conclusion & Call to Action

The Helena Community Solar Installation Project presents an exciting opportunity to create lasting positive changes in Helena. By investing in this project, we can deliver tangible economic, environmental, and social benefits for current and future generations. We seek the support and active participation of all stakeholders to bring this vision to life.

Let’s power Helena’s future—together.