CarbonFree

Fort Frances Solar
Community Meeting
Alberton Municipal Office
September 24th, 2025

CarbonFree Background

Ontario Solar Pioneer

CarbonFree has been successful in the Ontario market for more than twenty years providing a deep understanding of the market and regulatory environment.

History of Development with First Nation Partners

CarbonFree has developed 400MW+ of solar projects with Indigenous partners in Ontario

Integration of Solar with Land Heritage

CarbonFree's design team is committed to environmental management and integration of solar with local land practices and character (agrivoltaics)

Successful Economic Results

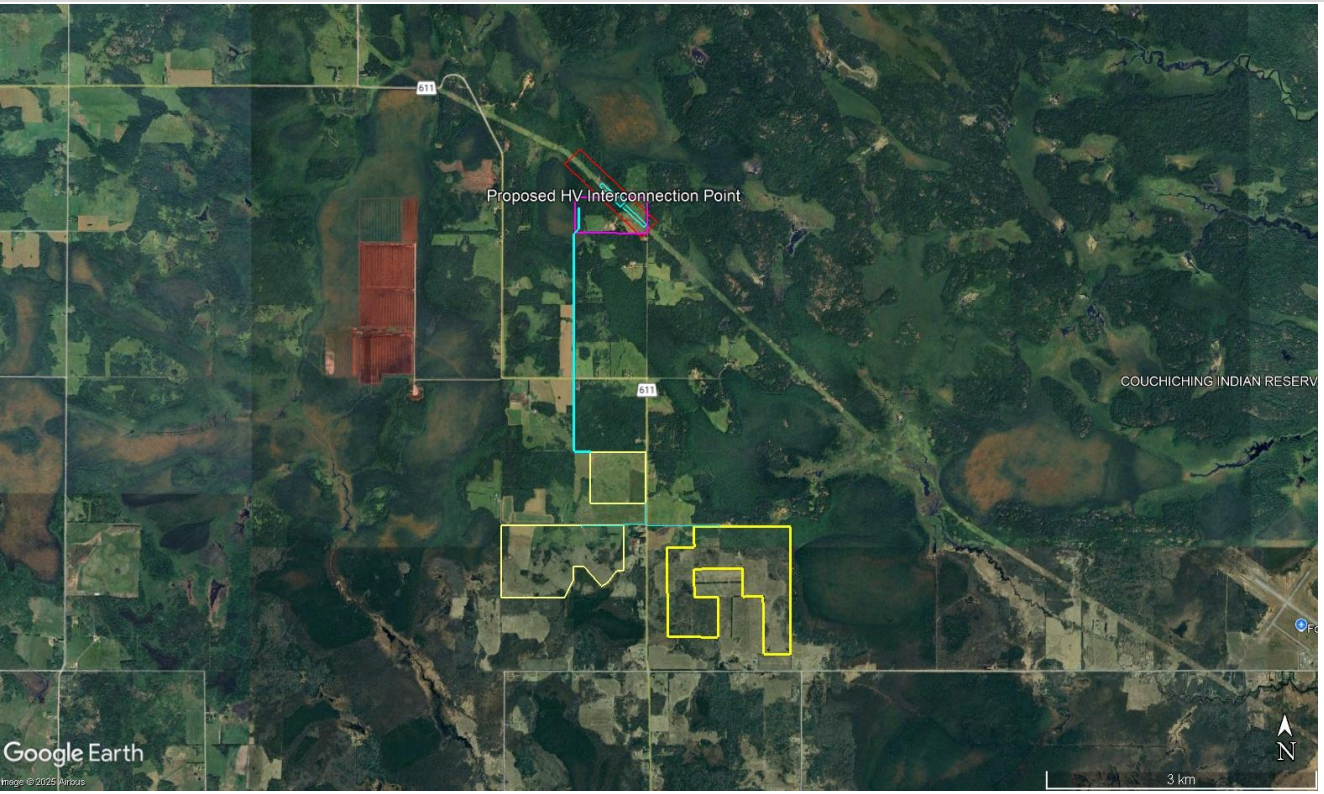
Working with finance partners and buyers of projects, CarbonFree has learned what is required to develop, commission and operate a mutually successful project.

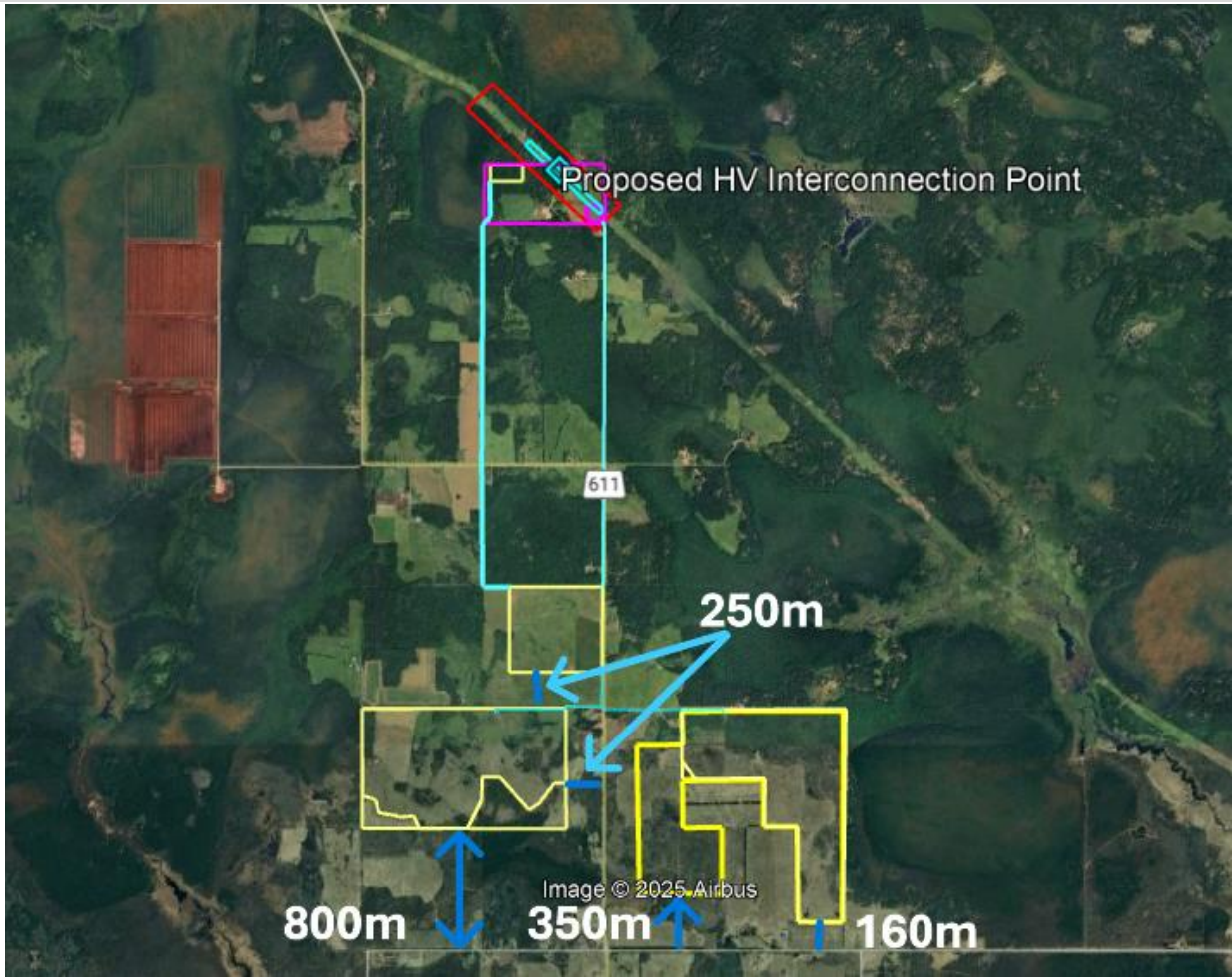



What Is The Purpose of This Meeting?

1. Feedback	• We want your input! • Feedback sheets can be found at the door.
2. Ask Questions	• CarbonFree is here along with HATCH Eng. to answer questions about this project, solar, Ontario's electricity system, Agrivoltaics, environmental permitting
3. Renewable Energy Approval (REA)	• Public input is a critical part of permitting and includes Environmental, Natural and Cultural Heritage, Archaeology, Indigenous Consultation and Land Use
4. This is the First Meeting	• This is the first of 3 public meetings to happen during the pre-development and design phase of the project.

Project Location





- 3km west of Fort Frances airport
- Adjacent to the 230kV Kenora to Fort Frances Transmission Line
- 200MW of available capacity on the line supports the size of the proposed project.

Public Consultation & Input To Date

Emo Fair	CarbonFree presented at the 2025 Emo Fair and spoke with **100+ community members** at the Market Square
First Nations Consultations	CF has directly engaged with the 10 local, Treaty 3 First Nations and has entered development partnerships with both Rainy River FN and Couchiching FN.
Public Meetings	Public meetings are a part of all of CF's projects and tonight's is the first of **at least 3** to be conducted during the pre-development phase of the Chapple project
Regional Meetings	Meetings with the CAO's of **Chapple, Emo, Alberton and Fort Frances**, the ED of RRFDC, RRFA MSR to discuss the project and to receive input;
Neighbourhood Consultations	CF has met and/or spoken with many of the **neighbours** of the Project and our project design is evolving with the direct input that we receive

Township of Alberton
Fort Frances
Rainy River Future Development Corporation
A Community Futures Development Corporation
Couchiching First Nation
Rainy River First Nations
Emo, Ontario
Rainy River Federation of Agriculture
Township of Chapple
R.R.V.A.S.
the Border 93.1 CFOB • Fort Frances

Public Feedback / CarbonFree Response

Visual Impact	• Green screens will be planted along Project borders visible from Hwy 611, Frog Creek Rd, Mcfee & Kliner Rd. • 30-meter minimum setbacks from roads
Noise Level	• Inaudible transformer noise beyond 100m at peak solar output • No noise at any distance in evening or nighttime (system shuts down)
Displacement of Agriculture	• Agrivoltaics project maintains the agricultural use acreage • Haying, sheep grazing, honeybee production, pollinator seeding • Non-Ag lands will be added back to agricultural use
High Cost For Ratepayers	• Power cost will be <$0.10/kWh to the IESO at peak hours • No provincial tariffs/subsidies support this project • Stable, predictable pricing for up to 35yrs

Agrivoltaic Design & Operation

- **Livestock Grazing**
- **Pollinator Habitat**
- **Land Use Management**

IESO & Solar

Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)

- Controls the provincial electricity grid
- Manages electricity generation
- Forecasts future electricity needs (**demand growth)**

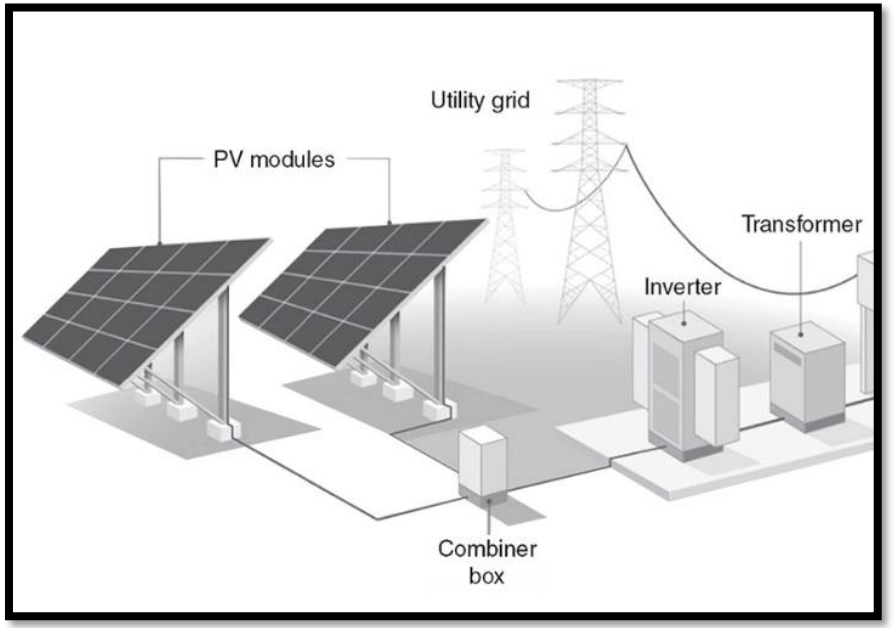
Long-Term 2 energy (LT2e)

- The IESO is running a competitive auction for new generation from all potential sources of generation (technology agnostic)
- Pricing for this auction is forecast to be <$0.10/kWh making it competitive with lowest cost power in the province.
- IESO forecast - by 2050 Ontario's demand for electricity will increase by 60%

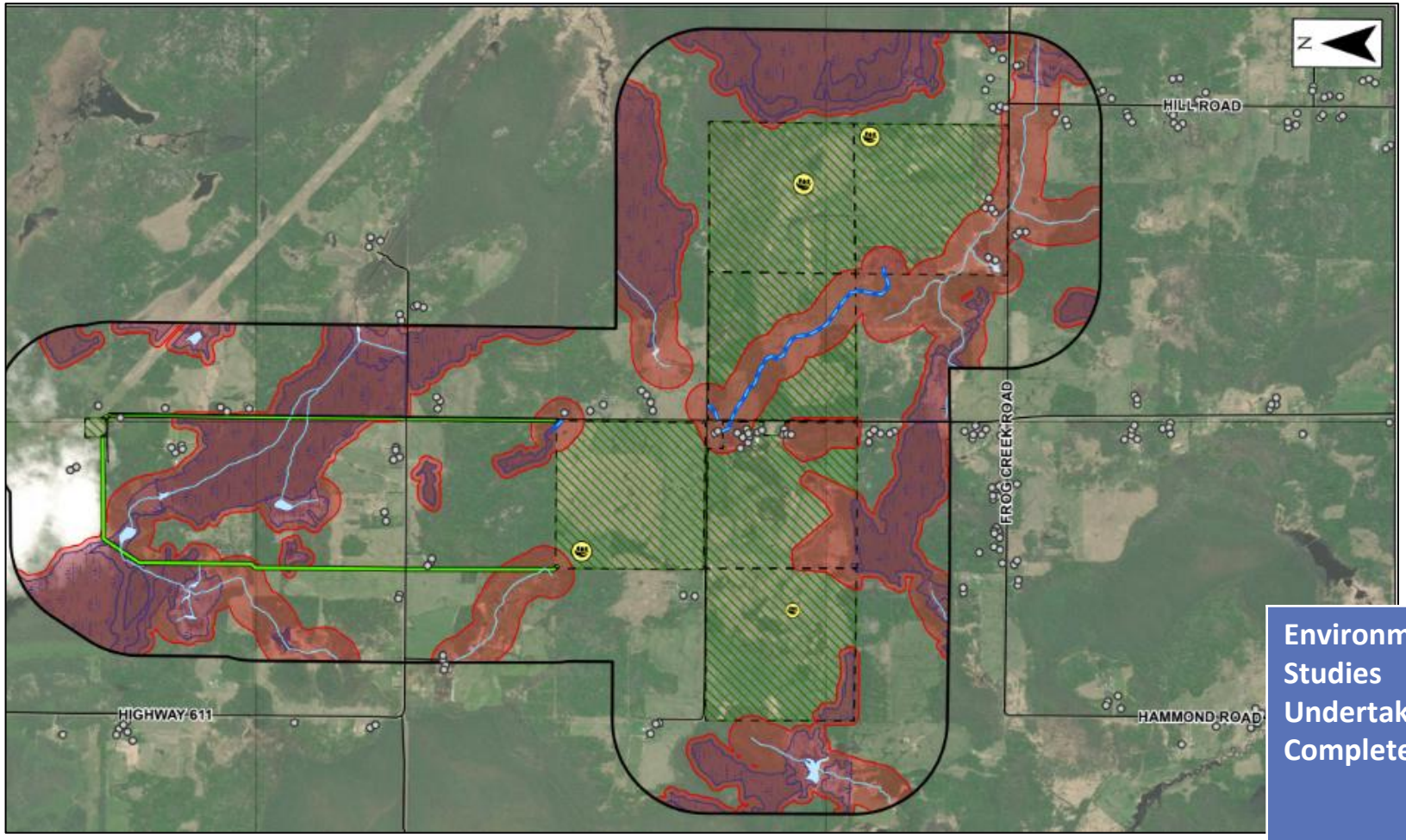
ieso
Connecting Today.
Powering Tomorrow.

How Does it Work?

- Electricity generated by solar photovoltaic (PV) panels
- Inverters convert Direct Current (DC) to Alternating Current (AC)
- Voltage is stepped up at a substation transformer.
- Electricity is connected to an existing transmission line



Environmental Studies Completed



LEGEND

- Road
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Project Properties
- Study Area (500m Buffer)
- Exclusion Zone
- Likely Developable Area

Environmental Constraints

- Building (Point)
- Grassland Bird Habitat
- Watercourse (Field Identified)
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Wetland

Environmental Studies Undertaken & Completed	• Endangered species (SAR) assessments • Wetland studies • Storm water management study • Amphibian & Bird surveys • Acoustic monitoring studies (bats, etc.) • Vegetation surveys • Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Assessments

Couchiching First Nation Proposed Partnership

Economic Partner	• Couchiching First Nation proposed to be 50.1% owners of the Project
First Nations Consultations	• CF has directly engaged with the 10 local, Treaty 3 First Nations • CF has a proposed development partnership with Couchiching FN where an open-house has been conducted and regular meetings taken with departments of the Nation.

Local Economic Stimulation

Regional Economic Growth	• >$3m/yr of revenue, income and local economic activity during the operating term of the project
Employment and Contract Opportunities	• Creation of local employment throughout construction, operations, and maintenance • Roughly 250,000-man hours (~150 full time jobs during construction)
Lease & Project Distribution Revenues	• Landowners receive annual lease payments • Couchiching First Nation – majority owners of the Project earn yearly distributions

Where Is the Power Going?

Rainy River Electricity Demand

- The Rainy River District —has 3 **large electricity consumers -** Newgold, WestFraser OSB, Manitou sawmill - along with local industrial, commercial and residential loads
- Local power demand exceeds what is produced from existing generation (hydro, solar) meaning, electricity is **imported from other regions** (E.G. Atikokan biomass, Kenora hydro).

Rainy River Electricity Generation

- This solar project will help balance the local grid by producing more power locally and it will keep more **generation revenues ($$) local** instead of sending to other regions.
- The power from this solar project will be substantially **consumed by local** industrial, commercial, and residential customers.

Why Is Solar A Good Choice for Ontario?

Reliability & Diversity of Supply	• Ontario's demand is shifting — electrification (EVs, industry, data centers) means more load growth, especially in Northern Ontario. Adding solar diversifies the supply mix, reducing reliance on a few large generating stations.
Cost Competitiveness	• Solar costs have declined dramatically. From the IESO's perspective, it's one of the most cost-effective new sources of clean electricity available, especially when paired with storage.
Decarbonization Goals	• The province has committed to cutting emissions from electricity. Solar provides zero-emission power and supports Ontario's broader climate targets.
Peak Demand Alignment	• Solar output often coincides with summer daytime peaks, helping offset the need for expensive gas-fired peaker plants.

Development/LT2 Timeline