

# BUILDING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

## 115 KV/34.5KV SOLAR PLANT/SUBSTATION

CHASE BENTON – TEAM LEADER  
SENKO DIZDAREVIC – COMMUNICATION LEADER  
ARIF IBRAHIM – WEBMASTER  
MAKOKO MUKUMBILWA – KEY CONCEPT HOLDER

SPONSOR: BLACK&VEATCH – ADAM LITERSKI, RAHUL RAMANAN  
ADVISOR: DR. VENKATARAMANA AJJARAPU



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# AGENDA

- **Project Overview (Scope)**
- **Deliverables**
- **Specification(Parameters)**
- **Solar Power Plant Design**
- **Substation Design**
- **Simulations**

# BACKGROUND

- **Chase Benton**

- From San Diego, California
- Focus in power systems, graduating in May of 2016

- **Senko Dizdarevic**

- From Johnston, Iowa
- Focus in power systems, graduating in August of 2016

- **Arif Ibrahim**

- From Glen Allen, Virginia
- Focus in power/control systems, graduating in May of 2016

- **Makoko Mukumbilwa**

- From Iowa City, Iowa
- Focus in power/control systems, graduating in May of 2016



# PROJECT OVERVIEW

- **Plant Location**

- Iowa
- Iowa energy center – solar calculator tools

- **60 MW Solar Power Plant**

- Plant/component sizing
- Plant layout
- HelioScope Simulation & PVWatts Calculator

- **Attached 115 kV/34.5 kV Substation**

- Substation one-line drawings
- Substation three-line drawings

# DELIVERABLES

- Solar power plant layout and conductor sizing
- Plant and substation component connection
- Substation one-line drawings/three-line drawings
- Drawing list
- Production simulation data
- Engineering man hour budget and schedule

## **SOLAR PLANT REQUIRED INPUT PARAMETERS**

- Location: Iowa
- Fixed Rack 325 W Hanwha Q Cells solar modules
- 1670 kW Eaton Xpert inverter
- 1500 VDC string voltage
- $\approx 1.30$  Inverter Load Ratio (ILR)

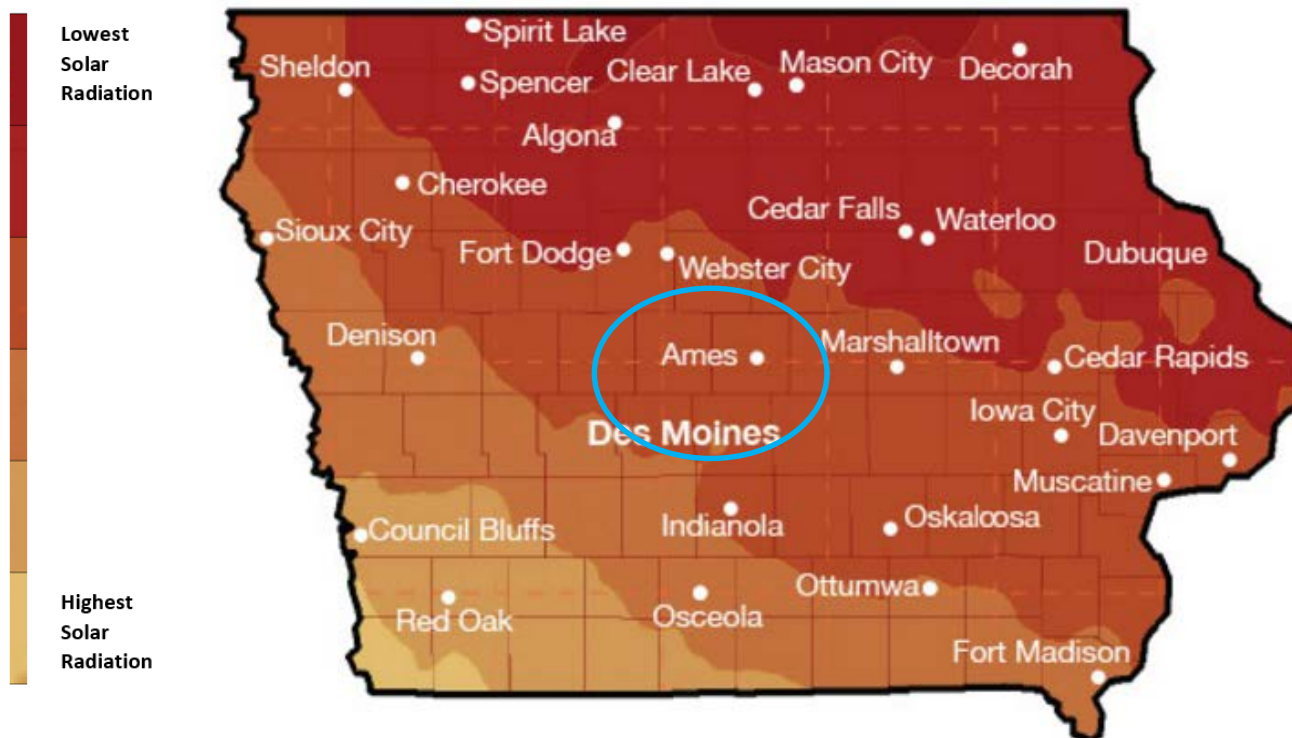
## **SUBSTATION REQUIRED INPUT PARAMETERS**

- Substation specification document
- Arcadia single line diagram



# SOLAR POWER PLANT LOCATION

- Using the Iowa energy center solar calculator tool
  - Area most suitable: Southwest Iowa\*
  - But we are using Ames/Boone area due lack of temperature data in SW Iowa



# ARRAY PARAMETER TOOL

String Size		Electrical Rack Size		CB capacity	
Min Temp	-26 C	Module width	3.28 ft	Module/string Isc (series)	9.44 A
		module height	6.54 ft	Isc continous current multiplier	1.25 see (a)
Voc	46.43 V			Nom Isc	11.8 A
Ref temp	25 C	Rack width	28 modules	Isc irradiance correction	1.25 see (b)
		Rack height	2 modules	Max Isc string	14.75 A
Temp Coeff of Voc	-0.0029 per deg C			Max Isc rack, at CB	29.5 A
Temp delta	-51	Rack width	91.84 ft	Allowed current CB	400 A
temp correction	1.15	Rack height	13.08 ft	Max current per CB	354 A
Voc corrected	53.297			Strings per CB	27.118644
		Frame width	1.38 in	Number of CB per array	11
String voltage/CB in	1500 V			Actual strings per CB	24 ****
String size	28.14417				
string size ( series )	28 modules				
String voltage calcul	1492.3 V				



# ARRAY PARAMETER TOOL

Array Design		Array Size			Plant Totals	
Racks per row	6	Tilt	15 Degrees		Array Blocks	36
		Azimuth	180 Degrees	see (d)		
Rows per block	20	Rack height proj	12.63431 ft		Number of CBs	396
Racks removed	2	Row spac	12 ft		Inverters	36
Total Racks	118	Pitch	24.63431 ft		Modules/Panels	237888
Total modules in Array	6608	Array height	492.6862 ft		Total Strings	236
					Total Racks	472
Module DC capacity	325 W	Array width	551.04 ft		AC Plant Output	59.976 MW AC
					DC Array Output	77.314 MW DC
DC capacity	2147.6 kW	Access road width	16 ft			
		<b>Array Size with access road &amp; spacing:</b>			PV Plant Height	3132 ft ***
Inverter capacity	1666 kW	Array height	508.6862 ft **		PV Plant Width	3386 ft ***
Inverter S capacity	1831 kVA	Array width	551.04 ft			
ILR ->Inv in/Inv out	1.289076	Array Area	280306.4 ft <sup>2</sup>		Solar Plant Area	10605348.8 ft <sup>2</sup> ***
			26041.32 m <sup>2</sup>			0.380 mi <sup>2</sup>
CB's per Array	11	Inverter skid	22 x 8.5 ft			243.5 acres
		Inverter skid area	187 ft <sup>2</sup>			985269.1 m <sup>2</sup>
Power per CB	195.2364 kW	Area of components	141936.5 ft <sup>2</sup>			
Power per Rack	18.2 kW	Ground Coverage Ratio (GCR)	0.506362	see( c)		

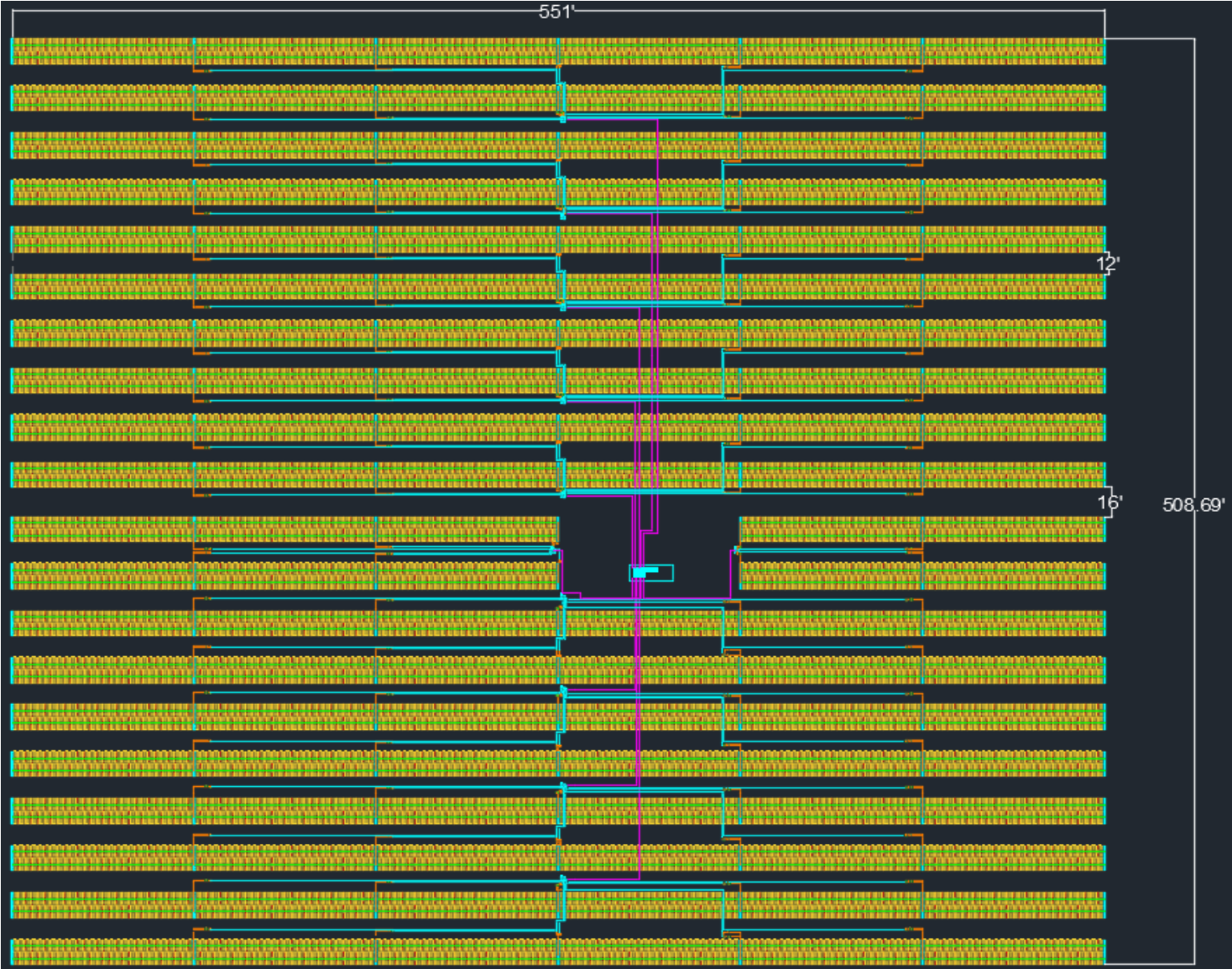


# SOLAR POWER PLANT DESIGN – ONE ARRAY

- 36 total arrays
- Components – per array
  - 118 racks per inverter
  - 11 combiners per inverter
  - 12 racks per combiner\*
  - 2 strings per rack
  - 28 modules per string
  - 6608 modules per array
- Spacing – per array
  - 12 ft between racks
  - 16 ft inverter access road in the middle



# DETAILED SOLAR ARRAY



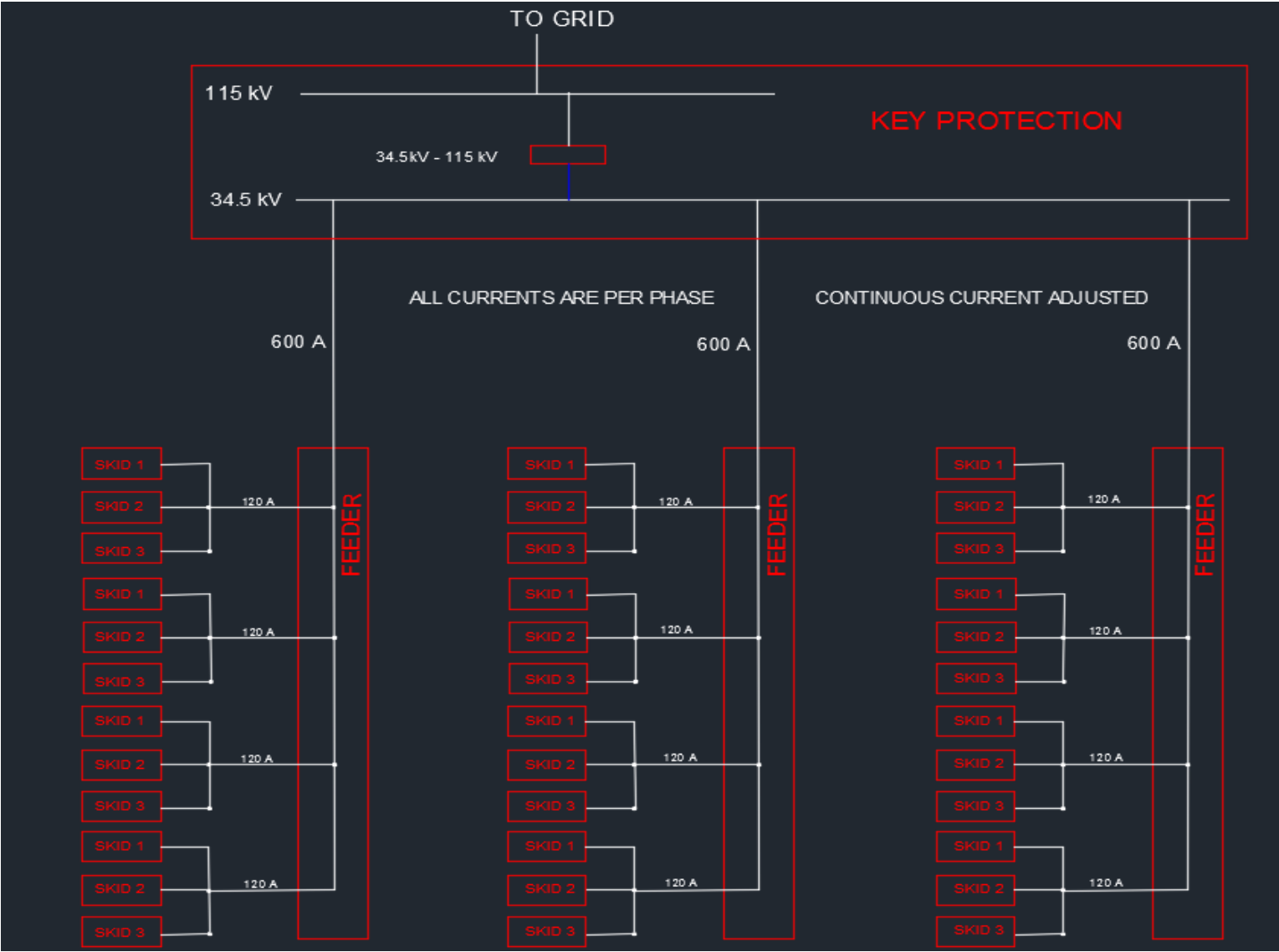
# SOLAR ARRAY CONDUCTOR SIZING

- Irradiance correction factor of 1.25 applied
- Referenced NEC 690(B) continuous current of 1.25
- Used NEC 310 guidelines to size conductors for solar power plant
- Referenced NEC 310 Table 300.50 for minimum burial depth requirements
- Referenced Table 310.15(B)(16) and Table 310.15(B)(17)

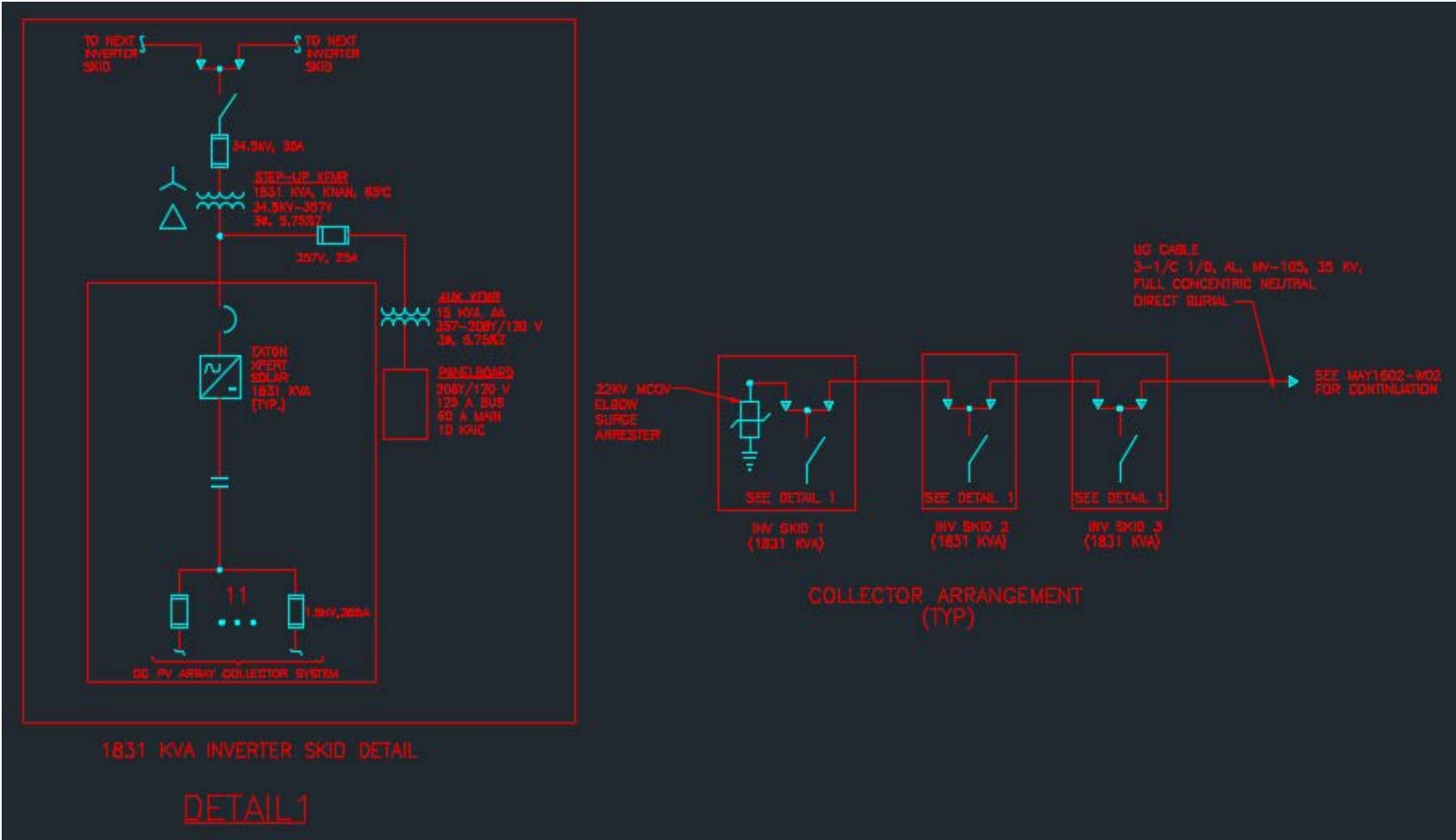
Conductors	Max Isc (A)	Type	Material	Temp (degC)	AWG	Cable Rating (A)	Minimum Depth	Fuse
String Conductor	14.75	Free Air	Copper	75	12	35	NA	15
Rack to CB - Jumper	29.5	Free Air	Copper	75	10	50	NA	30
CB to Inverter - DC feeder	354	Buried	Aluminum	75	700	375	30 inch	355
Xformer to Collector	116	Buried	Aluminum	75	1\0	120	36 inch	(*)



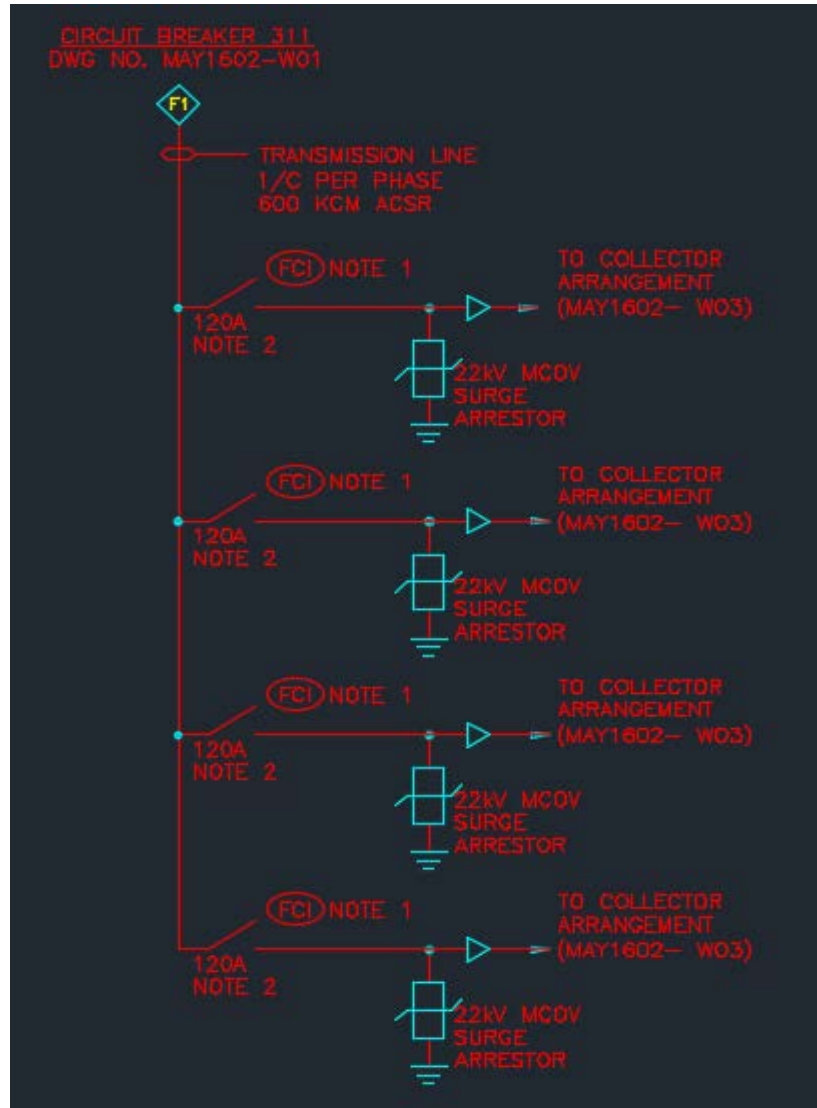
# SUBSTATION SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM



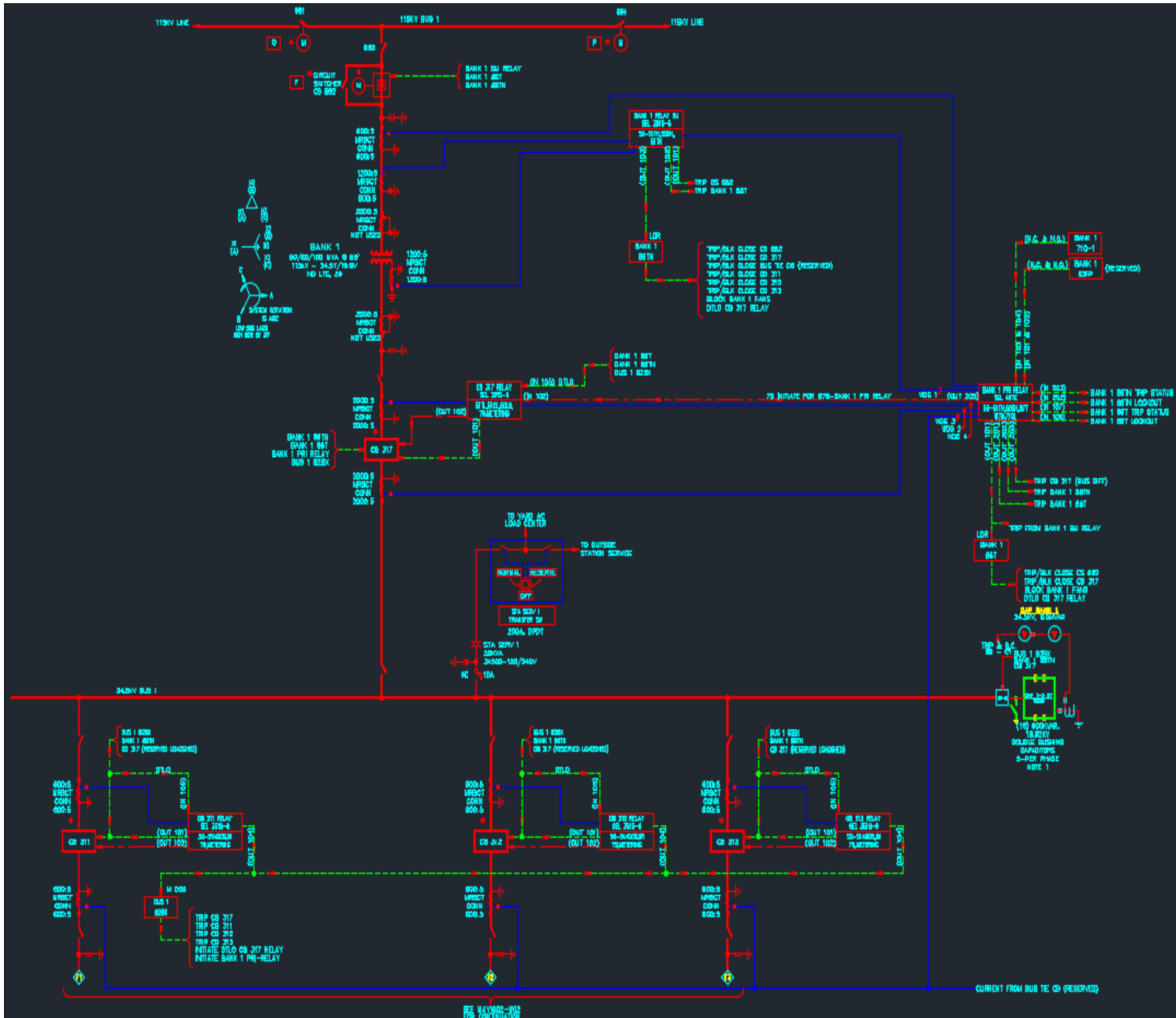
# COLLECTOR



# FEEDER



# KEY PROTECTION





# SUBSTATION 3 LINE DRAWINGS

- 3 Phase AC Schematics
- DC Schematics [Air-Breaker Bypass Switches (ABS), SEL-451 (Primary Relay, SEL-351 (Feeder/Backup Relay)]
- Communication (RTU, Router, RLH Card and Ethernet Switches)
- AC and DC Load Centers
- Panel Elevations

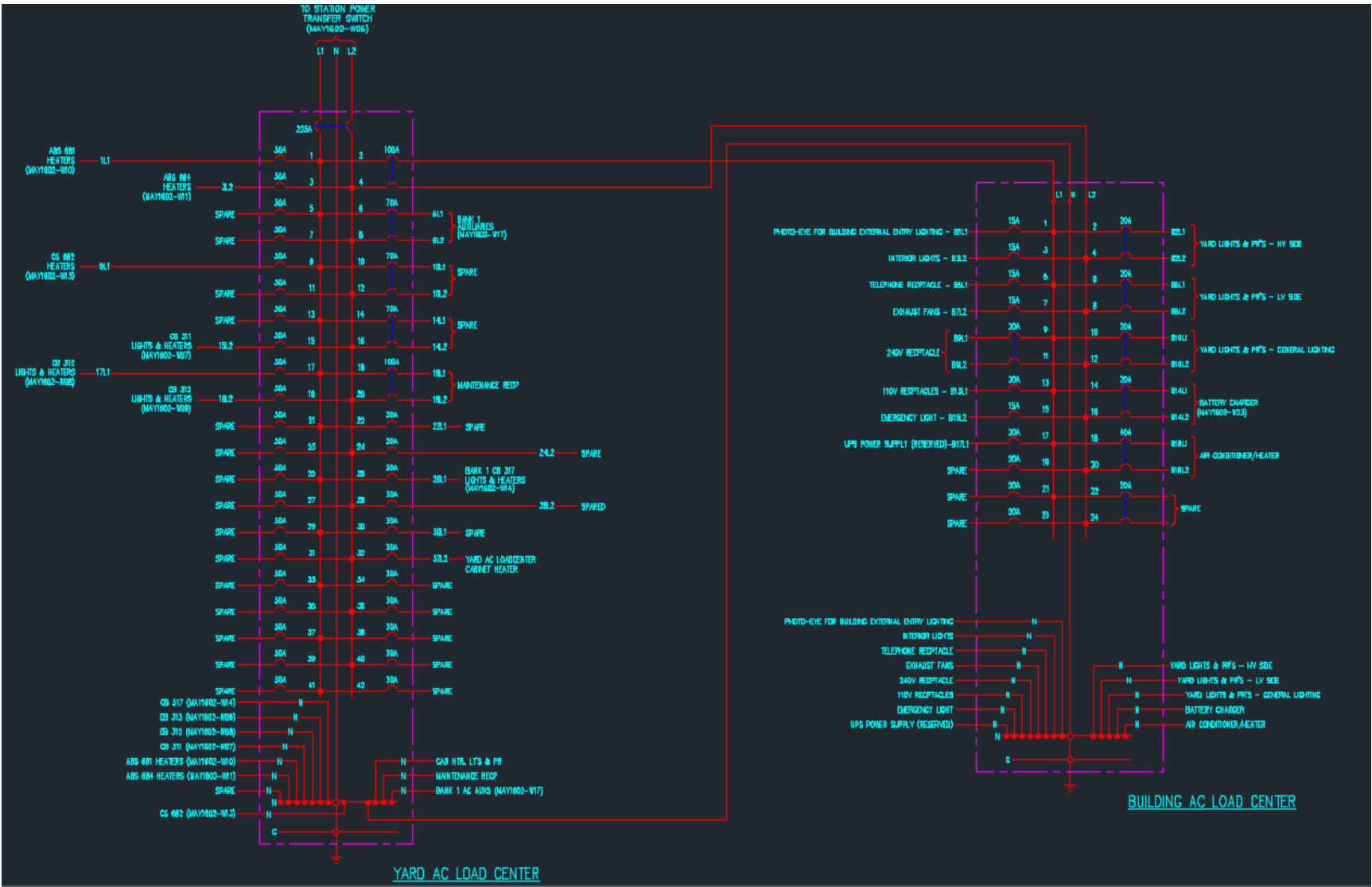




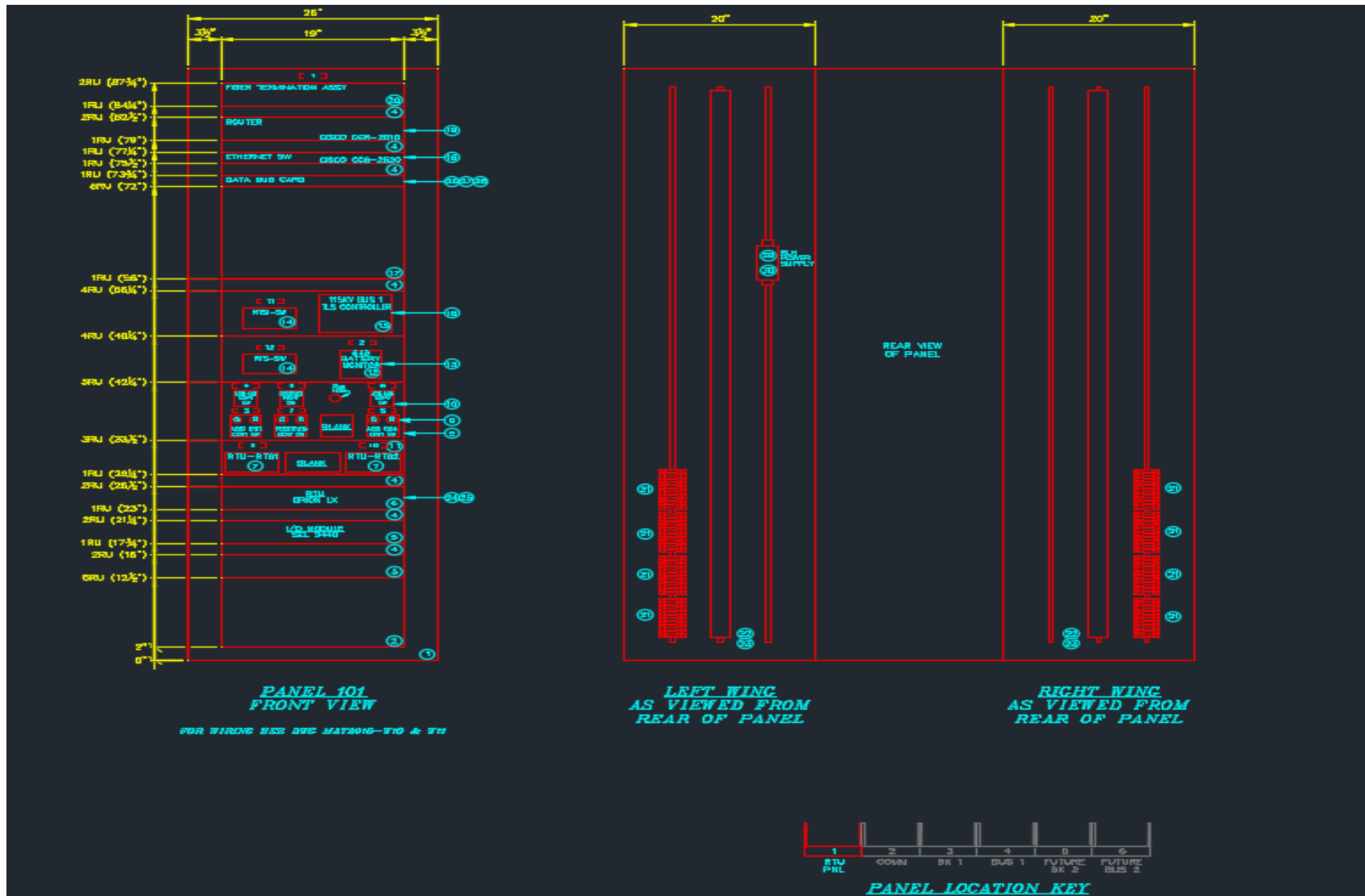




# AC LOAD CENTER

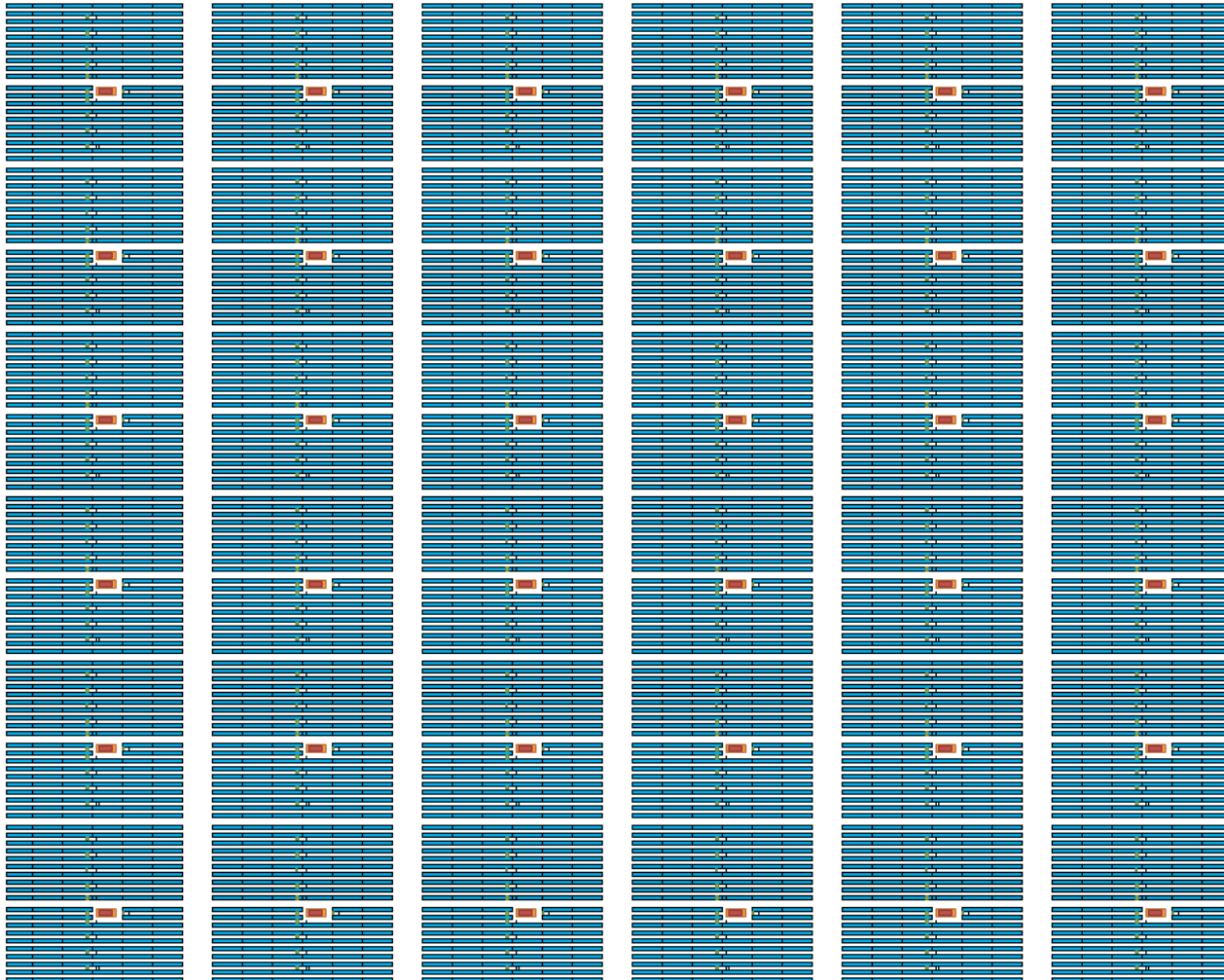


# PANEL ELEVATION

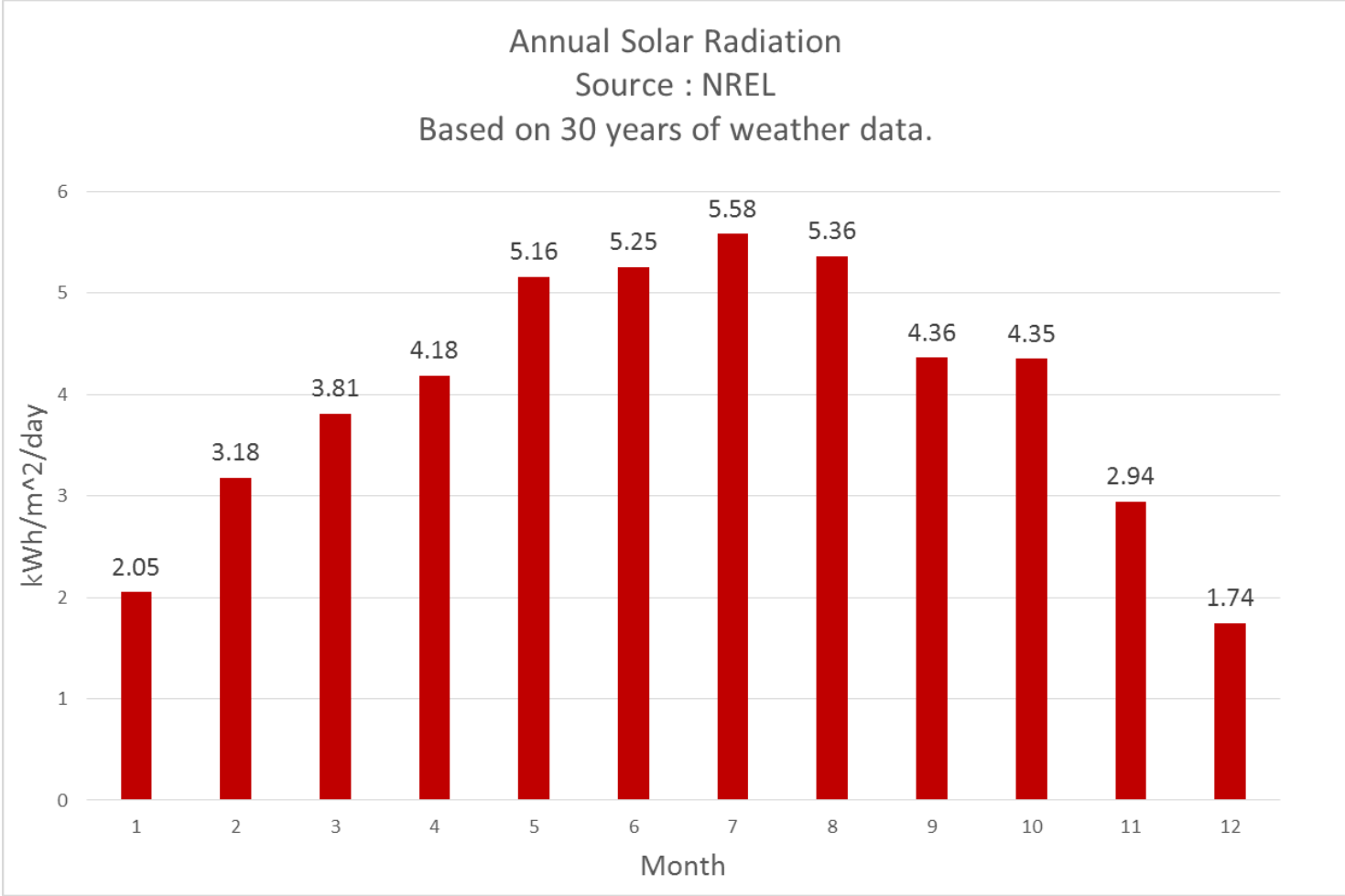


# SOLAR POWER PLANT LAYOUT: 36 ARRAYS

## 60 MW

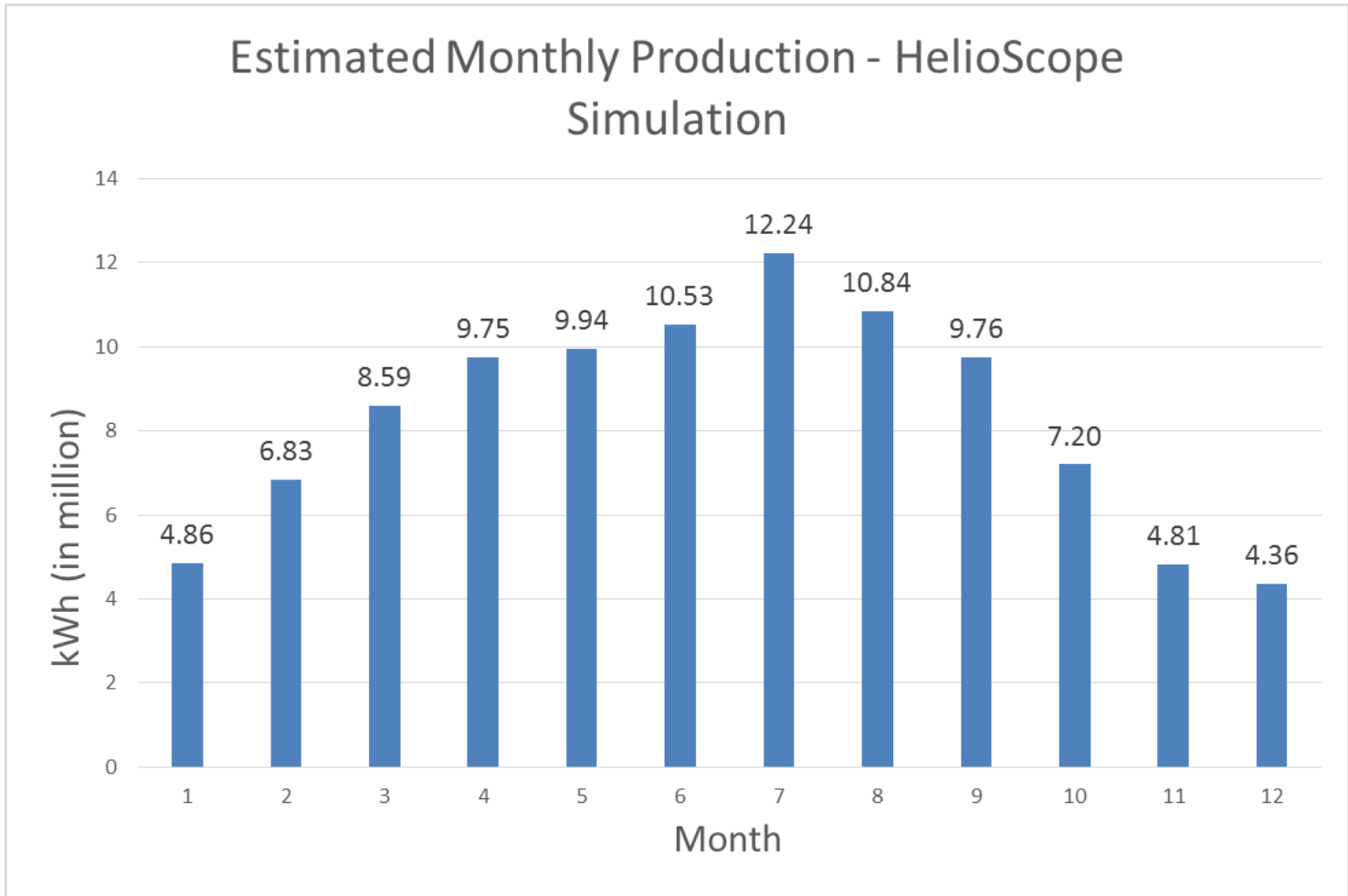


# ANNUAL SOLAR RADIATION





# EXPECTED PRODUCTION



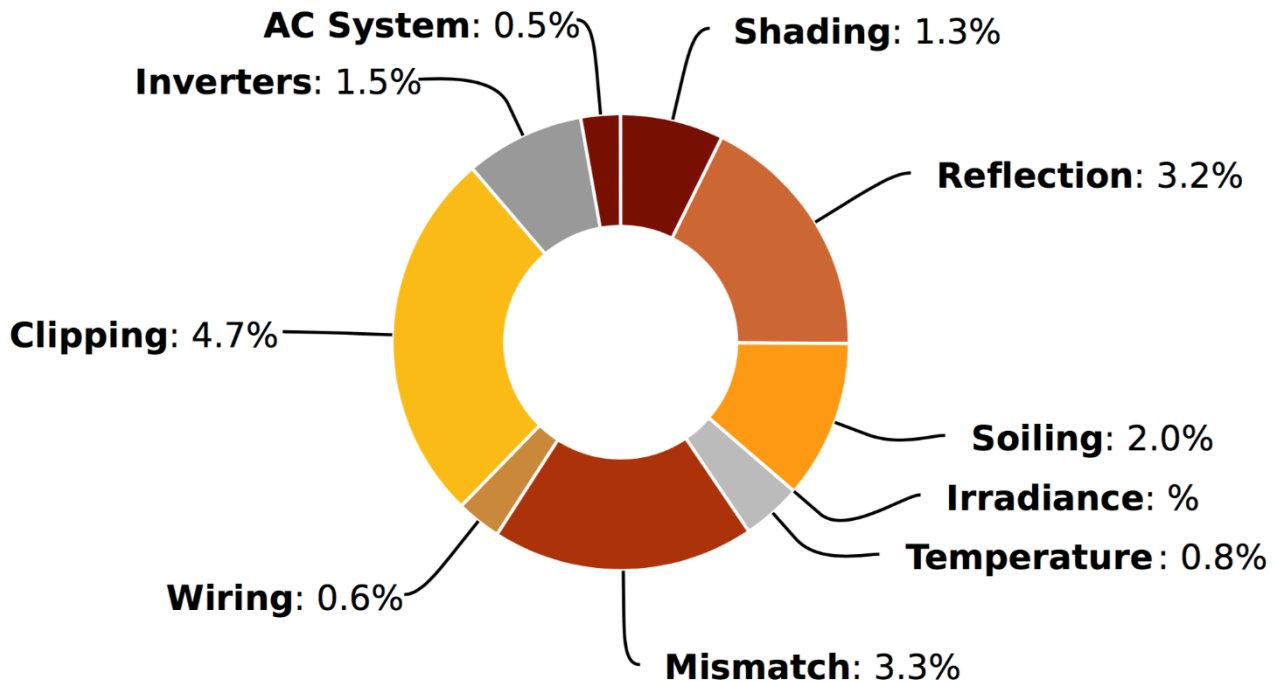
HelioScope Simulation: 99.73 million kWh/year

Comparison: Spain's Olmedilla PV Park (60MW): 87.5 million kWh/year



# ESTIMATED SYSTEM LOSSES

DC power losses  
Total 17.9%



Helioscope Simulation



# MAN HOUR BUDGET

115 kV / 34.5 kV Solar Power Plant / Substation																BLACK & VEATCH	
Start Week Aug 31, 2015																Billable Hours	
Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Tasks/Assignments
Start Date	Aug 31	Sep 7	Sep 14	Sep 21	Sep 28	Oct 5	Oct 12	Oct 19	Oct 26	Nov 2	Nov 9	Nov 16	Nov 23	Nov 30	Dec 7	Dec 14	
FALL 2015																	Meetings-client & advisors
																	Assign tasks/ begin research
																	Team roles/advisors meetings
																	Discuss project scope with client
																	Solar plant size determination
																	Project Plan V1
																	Design document V1
																	Solar array parameters
																	Solar array layout
																	Solar plant conductors
																	Substation one-line drawings
																	Substation three-line drawings
																	Project Plan V2
																	Design Document V2
																	Presentation slides and rehearsal
																	Faculty presentation
																Finalize deliverables	
																SUM	
Hours Budget	5.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	30.0	30.0	15.0	15.0	30.0	0.0	40.0	10.0	2.0	267.0
Hours Actual	4.0	10.0	8.5	16.5	25.0	16.5	44.0	37.0	24.0	16.0	18.0	31.5	0.0	59.0	29.5	1.0	340.5
% of Budget	80	100	85	165	125	83	220	123	80	107	120	105	0	148	3	1	127.5
Start Week Jan 11, 2016																Billable Hours	
Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Tasks/Assignments
Start Date	Jan 11	Jan 18	Jan 25	Feb 1	Feb 8	Feb 15	Feb 22	Feb 29	Mar 7	Mar 14	Mar 21	Mar 28	Apr 4	Apr 11	Apr 18	Apr 25	
SPRING 2016 PROJECTED SCHEDULE																	Meetings-client & advisors
																	Fall 2015 review
																	3-line ac drawings
																	3-line 89 drawings
																	3-line bank drawings
																	3-line bu drawing
																	3-line comm drawings
																	3-line dc drawings/ethernet
																	3-line feeder drawings
																	Design document V3
																	Optimization
																	Presentation preparation
																	BV presentation
																	Faculty presentation
																	SUM
	Hours Budget	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.0	10.0	8.0	15.0	0.0	10.0	20.0	20.0	10.0	20.0	2.0
Hours Actual	7.5	18.5	19.5	17.5	4.5	9.0	16.5	23.0	41.5	0.0	8.5	24.0	34.0	19.0	TBD	TBD	TBD
% of Budget	0.9	2.3	2.4	2.2	0.6	0.9	1.7	2.9	2.8	0.0	0.9	1.2	1.7	1.9	#####	#####	#VALUE!



# INITIAL CHALLENGES AND DIFFICULTIES

- Industry terminology
- Lack of experience with AutoCAD
- Team communications associated with tracking large number of drawing and parameter revisions.
- Familiarity with NEC code regulations
- Lack of solar panel parameter knowledge. Such as string voltage limitations, MPP, temperature affects of on panel voltage.
- Lack of face-to-face meetings with client/mentor.



# WHAT WE LEARNED – QUICK SUMMARY

- Design process, documentation, and man hour budget.
- Solar power generation parameters.
- How to maximize utilization of inverters by increasing DC capacity past inverter ratings.
- How to design modularity into solar arrays to allow flexibility of placement.
- Experience with substation relay circuitry & communication circuitry.
- Importance of NEC Code compliance.
- Minimizing cost, use aluminum for large conductors instead of copper.
- Simulation of expected kWh production.



**QUESTIONS?**

