



Jose M. Lebron, PMP
President
Sunrise Solar & Consulting LLC

Paraiso de Mayaguez
Amor St. 137
Mayaguez, P.R. 00680-6213
787-627-1003
jose.lebron@sunrisesolarpr.com

May 23, 2023

U.S. Department of Energy
American Made Challenges
Attn: Energizing Rural Communities Prize

Subject: Porta Coeli Agrivoltaic Farm Project For The Energizing Rural Communities Prize

In response to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) American Made Challenges Energizing Rural Communities Prize Phase 1 which was launched on March 1, 2023; Sunrise Solar & Consulting LLC have formed partnerships with the rural and remote community of Ancones at San German, Puerto Rico (00683-9402) to develop the “Porta Coeli Agrivoltaic Farm” project. This initiative will directly benefit the community of Ancones by building an Agrivoltaic Microgrid, provide workforce training, and entrepreneurship education to replicate the successful Agrivoltaic model at other Ancones and rural and remote communities’ farms and available land. The Microgrid will serve as an energy “oasis” for the Ancones residents during an emergency where electronics, batteries and other electrical artifacts could be charged for free. Also, since the farm contains a well, Ancones residents will have access to water during emergencies. Finally, satellite internet will be available to support the Ancones community during emergencies. The agrivoltaic microgrid will also be used for hands-on training and local Puerto Rico Agrivoltaic configuration proof of concept. In addition, a partnership program will be established to provide the Ancones community with the necessary training and education to replicate and expand Agrivoltaics to other rural and remote communities.

The program will provide Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Installation training, Agricultural Education to determine optimal agricultural activities configuration, financial education to create robust business plans and determine business feasibility. All these training and education will be tailored to coexist with micro-grids or utility-scale solar energy generation. Sunrise Solar & Consulting already has established partnerships with the University of Puerto Rico, the Business & Economic Development Center, Non-Profit organizations, and experts in Engineering and Agriculture to develop the “Porta Coeli Agrivoltaic Farm” and the Educational and entrepreneurship program.



The following is the requested information:

- I. **Project Title:** Porta Coeli Agrivoltaic Farm
- II. **Competitor Name:** Jose M. Lebron
- III. **Organization**
 - a. **Name:** Sunrise Solar & Consulting LLC.
 - b. **Address:** Paraiso de Mayaguez Amor St. 137 Mayaguez, P.R. 00680-6213
 - c. **Web:** <https://sunrisesolarpr.com/>
 - d. **Zip Code:** 00680-6213

IV. **Location of Primary Benefits:**

- a. **County:** Ancones Barrio
- b. **City:** San German
- c. **State/Territory:** PR
- d. **Zip Code:** 00683-9402
- e. **US Census Link:**



County Subdivision	
Ancones barrio; San Germán Municipio; Puerto Rico	
Total Population:	1,252
Median Household Income:	\$19,650
Bachelor's Degree or Higher:	39.2%
Employment Rate:	18.8%
Total Housing Units:	747
Without Health Care Coverage:	10.6%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race):	1,243
View Profile	

[https://data.census.gov/profile/Ancones barrio; San Germ%C3%A1n Municipi
o; Puerto Rico?g=060XX00US7212502852](https://data.census.gov/profile/Ancones%20barrio;%20San%20Germ%C3%A1n%20Municipio;%20Puerto%20Rico?g=060XX00US7212502852)

- V. **Online Video Pitch:** <https://youtu.be/tZLi-awzSs>

VI. **Project Members:**

- a. **Jose Lebron-Project Engineer**
 - i. 15 years of experience in the Aerospace and Medical device Industries
 - ii. Mechanical Engineer and Certified Project Management Professional (PMP)
- b. **Zabulón Mercado- Finca Mirador del Valle Majority Owner**
 - i. Agriculture Entrepreneur for the last +30 years
 - ii. President of community agricultural cooperatives
- c. **Hector Perez – Electrical Engineer**
 - i. Licensed Professional Engineer (Lic # 23754) with over 12 years of experience
 - ii. Certified Renewable Electrical Systems Installer (PV Systems- Photovoltaics; cert # PPPE-PV-2680)
- d. **Zabrina Mercado- Ancones Community Liaison**
 - i. Healthcare professional and partial owner of Finca Mirador del Valle at San German Puerto Rico.
 - ii. Ancones community liaison
- e. **Zabulón Mercado-Ramos- Agronomist**



- i. Over 15 years of experience in the Agricultural fields.
- ii. Will provide Agricultural Program Design, optimization of agricultural operations for Agrivoltaics.

VII. Other Partners

- a. **Fundación Borincana- Non-Profit Energy Development Accelerator program.**
- b. **Puerto Rico Energy Capital Access Program (PRE-CAP)**
- c. **Cooperative of Southwest Agriculturists (CASO COOP)**
- d. **University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez Campus (UPRM)**
- e. **Business & Economic Development Center (CNDE)**

We appreciate the opportunity of being considered for this great initiative of bringing benefits to rural and remote communities. Farmers, and landowners are eager to get into Solar Energy production but many of them do not want to get simply displaced by energy giants. The Porta Coeli Agrivoltaic Project will provide proven, replicable and scalable optimized Agrivoltaic Farm designs. They will address the needs, and concerns from the community, landowners and farmers to provide energy resilience, economic growth, and long-lasting partnerships for the Ancones Community and other rural and remote communities across the USA.