



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

# American-Made Solar Prize Round 7

## Technical Request

### GridBoost - Proactive Community Solar

**Keyword tags** - Automating Solar Siting and Development in Underserved Communities, Solar software automation, process automation, rural and underserved community electric system modernization. Customer acquisition, financing.

## Team

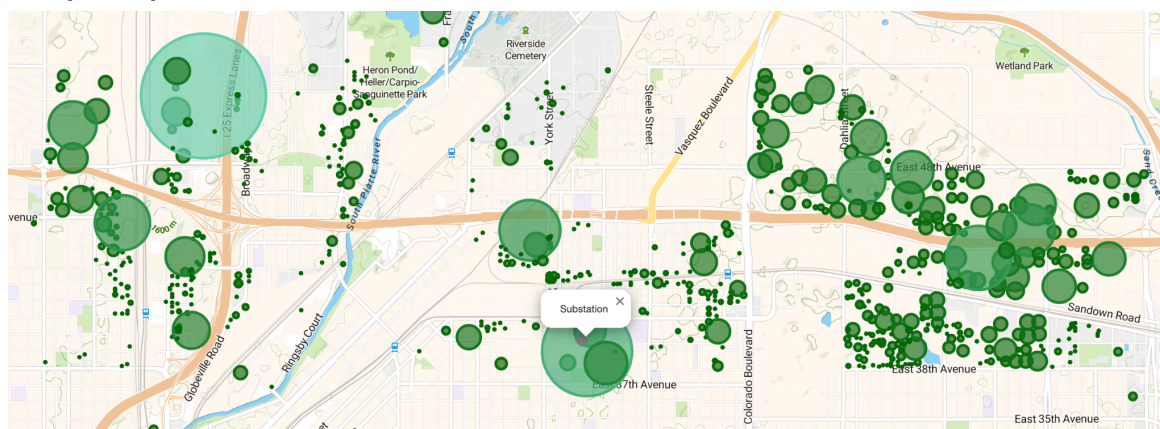
<b>James Lancelot</b>	<b>Han Wen</b>
Location: Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, 32081-0570 email: <a href="mailto:james@GridBoost.IO">james@GridBoost.IO</a> phone: (352) 870-7200 <a href="#">Linkedin</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location: Saratoga, CA, 95070 -</li> <li>• email: <a href="mailto:han@GridBoost.IO">han@GridBoost.IO</a></li> <li>• phone: (408) 421-3762</li> <li>• <a href="#">Linkedin</a></li> </ul>

## Background Information on Requests

We are developing a software platform that will connect community partners with developers by identifying qualifying sites for community solar deployments on commercial rooftops to support underserved communities. We are automating the ingestion and analysis of technical and financial incentive data to find sites with the most favorable attributes for successful deployment. Our mission is to find the best ROI for investors and stakeholders by identifying sites that qualify for federal incentives and de-risk projects through thorough sitting due diligence. We are leveraging LLMs and open-source technologies for rapid prototyping with an eye on longer-term design and cloud services to support any scaling needs. We are analyzing federal Disadvantaged Community incentives programs, US Census, county parcel data, and leveraging services such as Google's Solar API. We anticipate the inclusion of additional data sources, especially financial modeling to build out the siting due diligence.

We are looking to collaborate with developers and community partners to test and further develop the platform along with contacts within utilities and ISOs for access to additional technical data and updates on interconnection queue reforms. We are also looking for additional guidance on financial modeling to help build out the platform.

## Example Output from GridBoost Platform



## KEY NEEDS

**Research and Development (4/5):** We are looking for consultation on available financial incentives and legislation at the federal, state and local levels, particularly for counties where candidate sites have been identified. To help leverage first-ready, first-served process reforms for improving project qualifications, we're looking to find contacts within Utilities and ISOs for access to infrastructure data and latest updates/guidance.

**Testing and Validation (5 / 5):** We're looking to find partners: developers and community partners to test our solution, provide feedback to help identify gaps and additional analyses needed to support financially viable business models that support underserved communities.

**Business Development & Commercialization (3 / 5):** Looking for guidance on business models for monetizing our platform while fertilizing disruptive growth in community solar in support of underserved communities.