

## Renewable Rebirth: Indigenous Led Solar Recycling

The Osage Nation, based in Oklahoma, has bared a significant brunt of America's energy demands for over a hundred years, as the site of the brutal murders over oil revenues recently portrayed in the movie Killers of the Flower Moon.

As the rest of the country begins to incorporate renewables and grid modernization, the tribe is threatened by over 50 illegal dumping grounds on its already limited lands, with nearly 900 football fields of trash found in 2022 alone.

The solar industry is beginning to face the reality that millions of solar panels across the Midwest will require decommissioning in the coming years, with no solar panel recycling center near the reservation to encourage proper disposal.

This proposal proposes the development of the first indigenous recycling center focusing on solar asset waste streams and ensuring non toxic separation methods, exploration of reuse materials science initiatives, and material circularity and rebirth.



### Cross Sector Benefits Exist:

Reduced Landfill Usage/Pollution  
Circularity and Reliability  
Jobs and Careers  
Research Investment  
Manufacturing Revival  
Full Life Cycle Sustainability  
Indigenous Community Benefit

