

Decarbonizing the Grid & Catalyzing Community Impact in the MS Delta

Team Quitman

Clearloop, Quitman Co Economic Tourism & Development, Quitman Board of Supervisors

- Quitman County, Mississippi, is a small community with an influential Civil Rights history located in the heart of the Mississippi Delta. Due to its location in a flood plain and lack of infrastructure, Quitman has experience consistent levels of economic distress, with a poverty rate of 34.8% and an unemployment rate of 46.9%
- The county has difficulty building distributed energy projects due to flood plain, which leads to a lack of energy generation/clean energy support for new businesses that are brought to the area. More specifically, Quitman County only has 1 substation compared to its neighbor Panola County's 11
- Clearloop provides a regional solution by building a solar project on school district land, one of the few areas not in the floodplain. Through the Mississippi Solar for Schools Program, the district selected a third-party developer to construct, own, and operate a solar facility with revenue disbursements going to both parties
- Our efforts follow the DOE's interest in carbon management and grid modernization. These efforts are modernizing the grid and bringing new solar projects to communities where the greatest economic and environmental benefits can be achieved
- To facilitate effective community engagement, Clearloop will engage through a Community Benefit Development Agreement. Community meetings with the partner groups will create a space for community members to be heard
- The Quitman Tourism Economic Development, (Q'TED) is a non-profit division of the Quitman County Government that has been organized to help create economic growth and development; promote tourism, help improve public education opportunities, promote positive social and cultural transformation.

