



BROCKTON BRIGHTFIELDS
Generating Clean Energy for Brockton

Brownfields to Brightfields

*Revitalizing Brockton by Converting
a Former Manufactured Gas Plant
to a Solar Energy Generating
Station*

Lori Ribeiro, Brockton Brightfields Consultant

LRibeiro@bluewavestrategies.com

(781) 648-2605



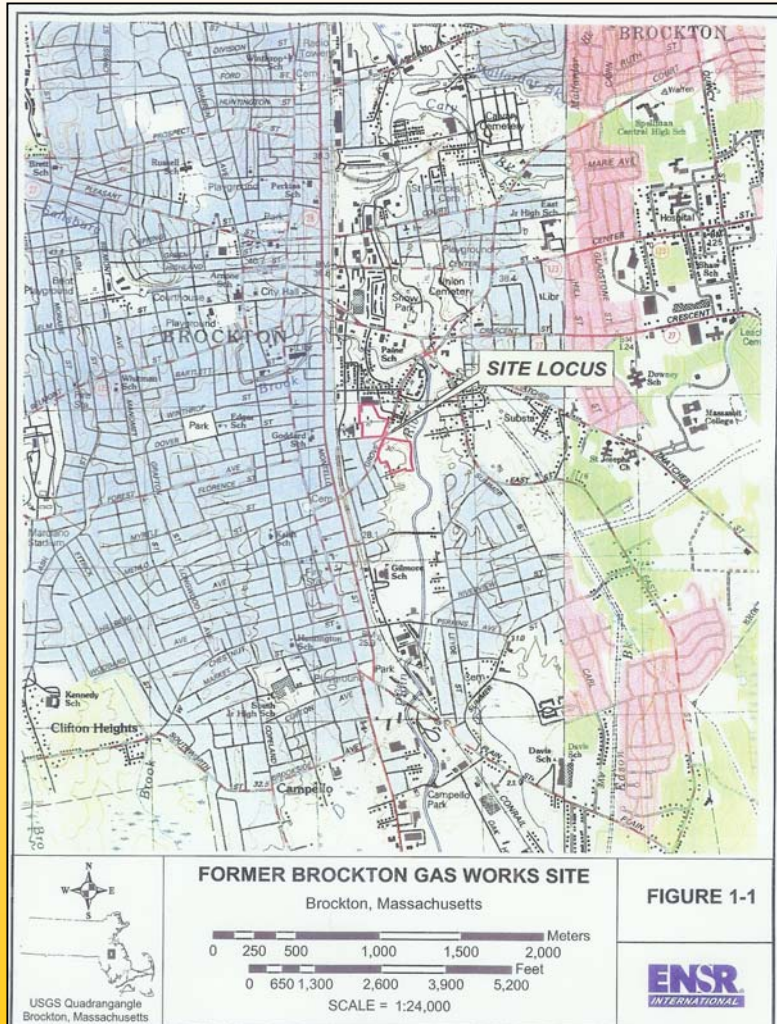
Background – City of Brockton

- Located 20 miles south of Boston, 30 miles northeast of Providence
- Diverse population of 94,304
 - 62% self-report as “white”
 - Significant Cape Verdean and Haitian populations
- Industrial history
 - Shoe manufacturing
 - Thomas Edison constructs first centrally-powered electric station in Brockton in 1883
- “City of Champions”





Brightfield Site History



- Former Brockton Gas Works manufactured gas plant, 1898-1963
- Bay State Gas Company is property owner and responsible party
- Two lots spanning 27 acres on opposite sides of Grove Street
- Contaminants capped below the ground – limited reuse options
- Remediation completed August 2004



What is a Brightfield?

- A brightfield is a brownfield that is redeveloped using solar energy technologies
 - Concept created by US Department of Energy
- Brockton's Brightfield consists of **1,512 SCHOTT Solar modules**
- At 460 kW, the Brockton Brightfield is the largest solar array in New England and the largest brightfield nationwide





Why a Solar Brightfield?



- Brockton 97% developed
- Residential impact of brownfields
 - Industrial areas abut residential areas
- Environmental justice issues
 - Not a dumping ground!
- Brightfield is a unique opportunity
 - No pollution
 - No noise
 - No traffic



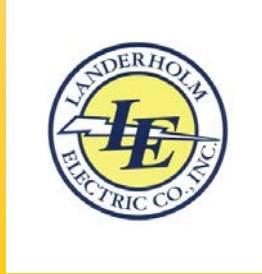
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Brockton's Brightfields Partners

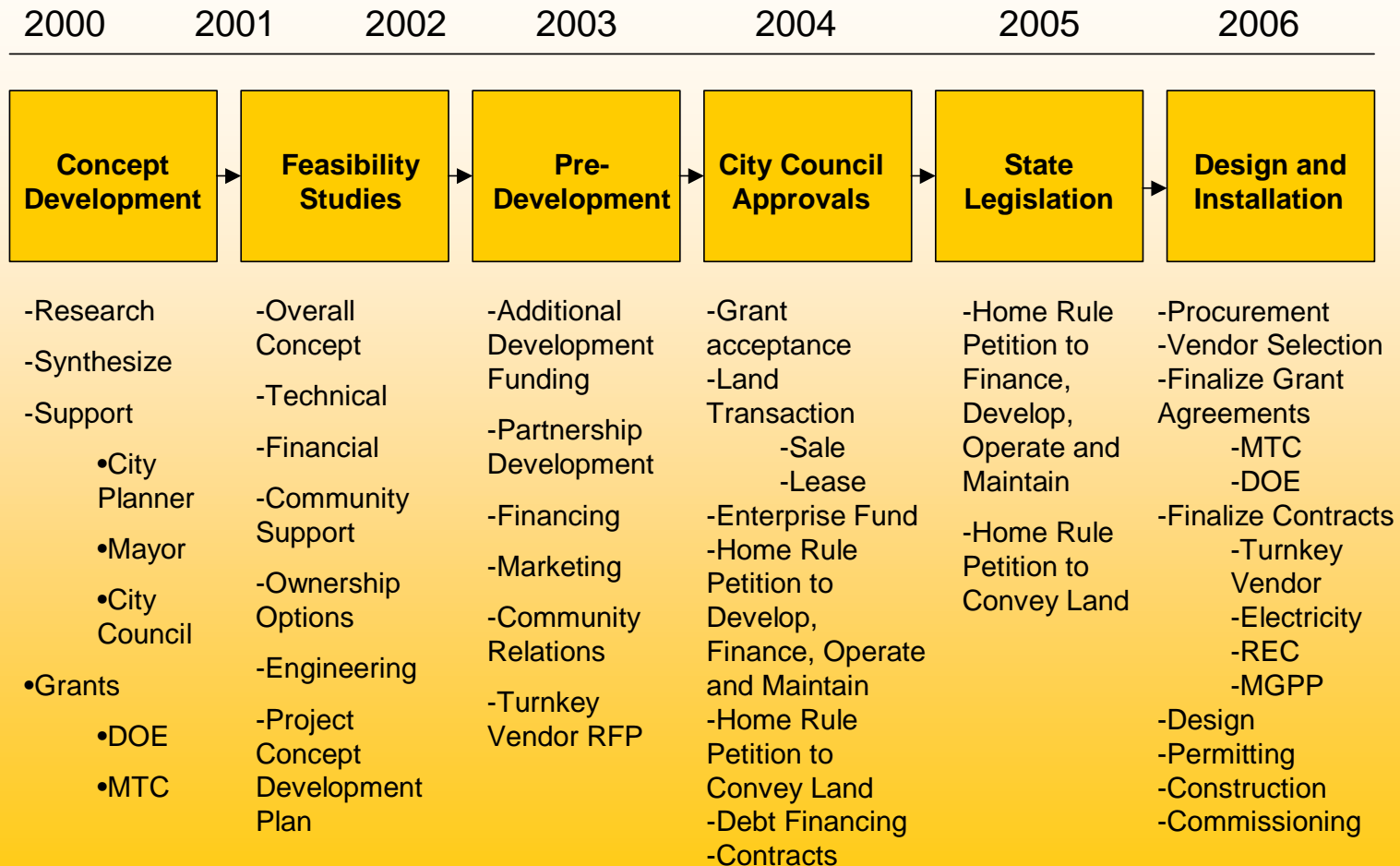


Massachusetts
 Department
 of
 ENVIRONMENTAL
 PROTECTION





Brightfield Development Activities and Timeline





Feasibility Study Summary

- **Conclusions**
 - 10 acres developable
 - 1 MW PV array technically feasible
 - Mounting structure must not penetrate the cap
 - City ownership more economically feasible than private
 - Site aesthetics are key to community support
- **Recommendations**
 - Phase I – a .5 MW PV installation, 600 MWh/year
 - Initial capital costs: \$3.6 million; 60% city financing, 40% grant funding (\$3/watt)
 - Key next steps – financing and marketing



Feasibility Study – Illustrative Site Plan





Installing the System: Features

- The system consists of **1,512 SCHOTT Solar ASE 300 modules**
 - **Utility scale**
- **South facing, 42 degree angle to maximize total electricity generation**
- **SatCon Inverters**
- **Fat Spaniel Data Acquisition System**
- **Landerholm Electric Co. – local installation (IBEW Local 223)**





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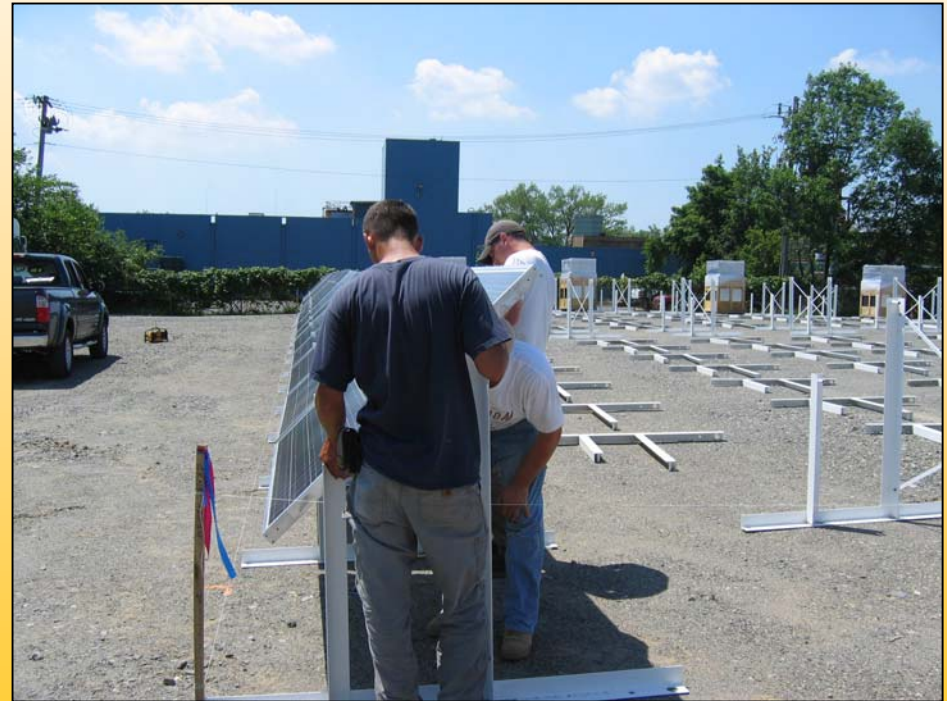
Installing the System – Site Preparation





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Installing the System – Modules





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Installing the System – Modules





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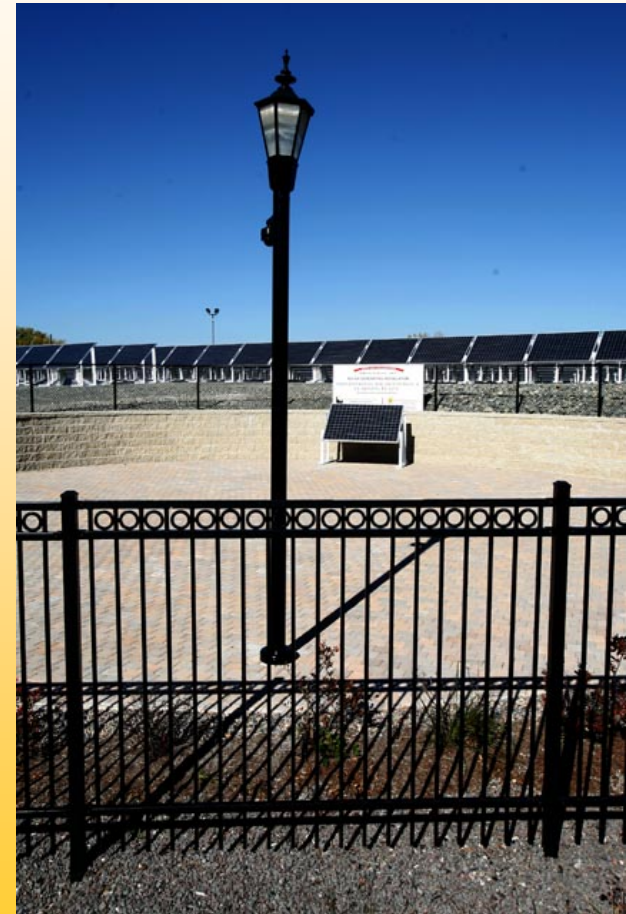
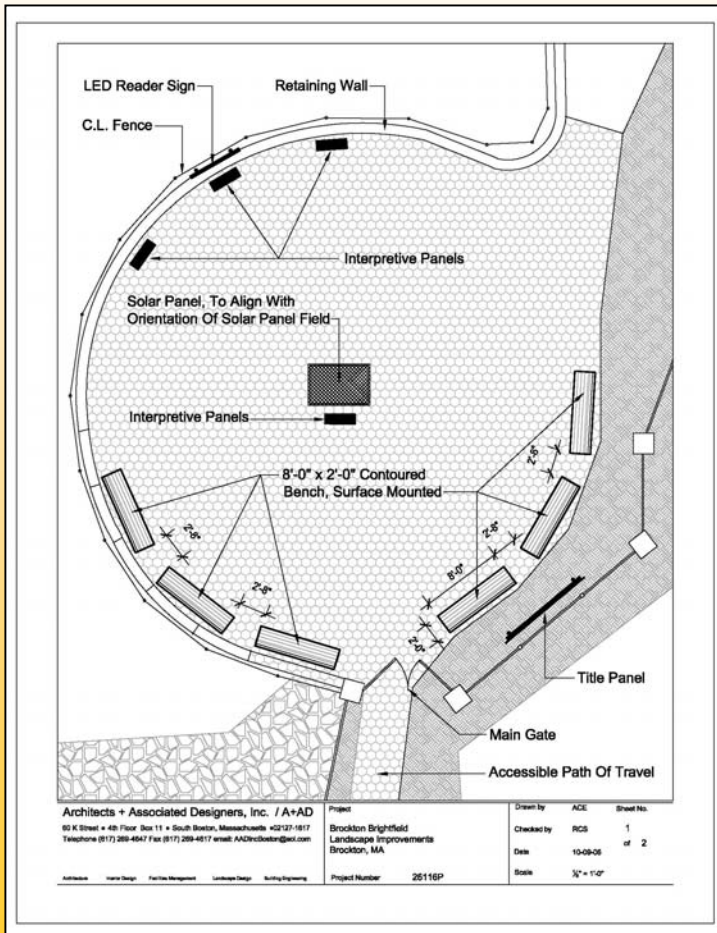
Interconnection and Commissioning





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Thomas A. Edison Educational Plaza





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“Before” and “After”





System Performance

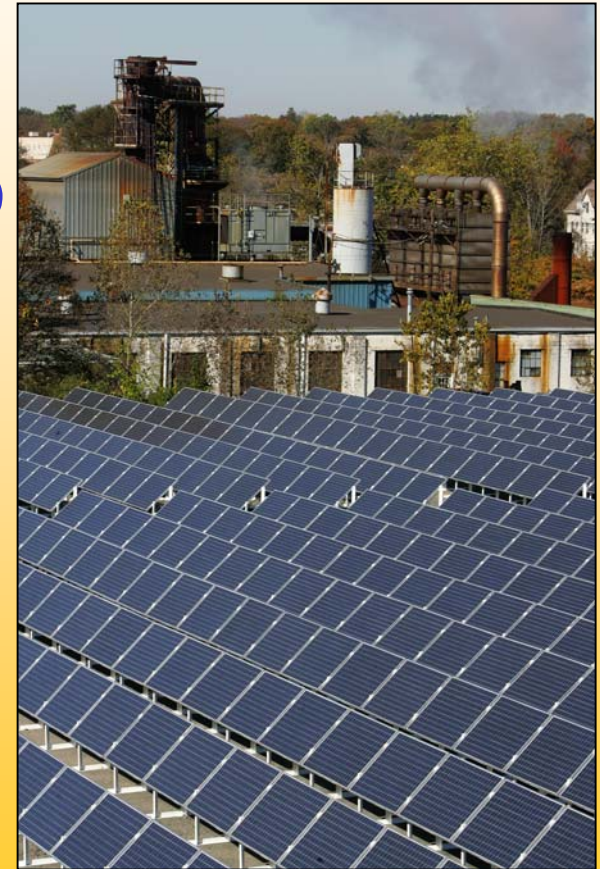
- The system is projected to produce about 580 MWh per year of electricity
 - Enough to power about 77 homes, *or* Brockton City Hall plus a portion of the police station load
- Module warranty 20 years, expected system life of 30-50 years





Project Benefits

- **Environmental**
 - No pollution, noise, or traffic
 - Avoids annual emissions of ~ 677,000 pounds of CO₂, 1,200 pounds of SO₂ and 315 pounds of NO_x
- **Aesthetic**
 - Converts blighted industrial brownfield into clean energy showcase
 - Enhances local property values and encourages reinvestment
 - Improves Brockton's image – innovative, cleaner and greener





Project Benefits (cont'd)

- **Economic**
 - Converts idle brownfield into revenue generating asset
 - Jobs for local installers
 - Revenues to MA-based renewable energy businesses
 - Eliminate city's liability for City-owned parcel
- **Educational**
 - Programming for children and general public





Lessons Learned – What Works

- Community-based project
- Do your homework!
- Political support
 - Local, state and federal
- Community investment
- Multiple funding sources
- Partnership approach
- Cost-effectiveness
 - \$3.00 per watt incentive





Lessons Learned – What Doesn't Work

- Policy barriers requiring special legislation
- Transactional costs
 - 101 decision points
- Complexity of joint action
 - Multiple participants with varying levels of commitment and urgency
- Time is an enemy
- Insurance – difficult to obtain and expensive!





Policy Changes to Facilitate Renewable Energy on Brownfields

- Pending MA Energy Bill (Senate 2468):
 - “Green communities” assistance
 - Net metering provisions
 - Increase cap from 60 kW to 2 MW
 - Neighborhood net metering
 - Municipal renewable energy provisions
 - Creates “small municipal renewable energy generating facility” <10 MW
 - Legal authority
 - Borrowing term
 - Procurement
 - Siting reform