

20MW SOLAR PROJECT

IN RAJASTHAN, INDIA

PROJECT TYPE

Renewable Energy

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project finances two solar installations in the region. These generate renewable solar electricity equivalent to powering 8,300 homes and sell it to the local electricity grid.

TO PURCHASE

<https://www.goldstandard.org/projects/20-mw-solar-project-rajasthan-india>

PRICE

\$15.78 per tCO₂e (subject to exchange rate from USD)

NOTES

You can enter a pre-calculated emissions total (e.g. from the [McGill Carbon Calculator](#) or from support provided by [McGill's Climate Officer](#)).

PROJECT LOCATION

Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India

PREREQUISITE CRITERIA

Dedicated applied student research teams in the School of Environment and the Faculty of Management defined prerequisite criteria that offset projects had to meet to be considered by the McGill Offset Selection Committee.

Do No Harm

Gold Standard projects include a "Do No Harm" assessment of human rights & property, removal of cultural heritage, right to collective bargaining, forced & child labour, discrimination, and degradation of natural habitats. Results of this assessment showed risks as "low" or non-applicable. A consultation with local communities was hosted prior to project approval to enhance project design and explain solar generation and project impacts. A follow-up feedback meeting was also hosted, and a grievance register for the project is maintained at the site office as well as by email and phone. Lastly, 2% of revenue is contributed to community development, in line with India's national commitment of 2% towards sustainable development.

Additionality

The baseline scenario assumes that electricity delivered to the grid would be thermal/fossil-fuel based, per regional norms. The baseline accounts for the average addition of new generation sources at a standard rate. In the project scenario, electricity is solar-generated and the sale of carbon credits makes investment into this energy type economically viable for the developer in this region. Additionality was demonstrated using the "Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality v7.0".

Leakage

The project displaces an equivalent amount of average-mix electricity generation, and provides this at a competitive rate due to supplemental carbon credit funding.

Unique Ownership

Credits are registered on the Gold Standard registry.

3rd Party Verification

Requirement of the Gold Standard. Due to age of project, verification reports are not yet publicly available.

Accounting Standard

Project impacts are calculated according to the Gold Standard (v2.2). Additional standards specific to the project include "ACM0002: Grid connected electricity

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ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

The Offset Selection Committee—composed of students, faculty and staff—developed additional criteria for the offsets. These additional criteria helped the Offset Selection Committee recommend offset projects that fit McGill's mission and would help contribute to the overall sustainability goals of the University.

Review Process & Frequency

Per Gold Standard requirements, the project includes a monitoring plan. Monthly meter readings provide the quantity of net electricity generation supplied to the grid, which are checked against invoices/bills. Calibration of meters is done every 5 years. Due to age of project, verification reports are not available to frequency is unknown.

Accuracy & Ease of Measure

This project is easy to measure and considered highly accurate. Avoided emissions are verified against actual electricity generation and grid average emission factors sourced from the Government of India's Ministry of Power Central Electricity Authority.

Scalability

Average to large scale. Estimated credits of almost 35,000 tCO₂e/year and lifetime mitigation of ~245,000 tCO₂e over 7 years.

Permanence

High degree of permanence. As the project generates electricity and sells it to the grid, annual emission reductions are realized and irreversible.

Co-Benefits

The project provides affordable, renewable energy and diversifies electricity generation in the region. A reverse osmosis and water filtration plant was commissioned by the project developer and benefits the local community daily. Employment opportunities were provided during construction and operations, with a strong focus (28 out of 34 permanent employees) on local employment. Solar installations tend to have minimal impacts on land, water and air.

Alignment with McGill Community

Direct alignment with McGill is less pronounced than the other projects. However, a number of students and community members are from India, and McGill offers internships and other opportunities in regions throughout India. The project includes education & school support via distribution of equipment to local schools and training opportunities for local staff. This project was included in part to ensure a diversity of project types and project locations, and in recognition that the impacts of climate change are felt globally.

