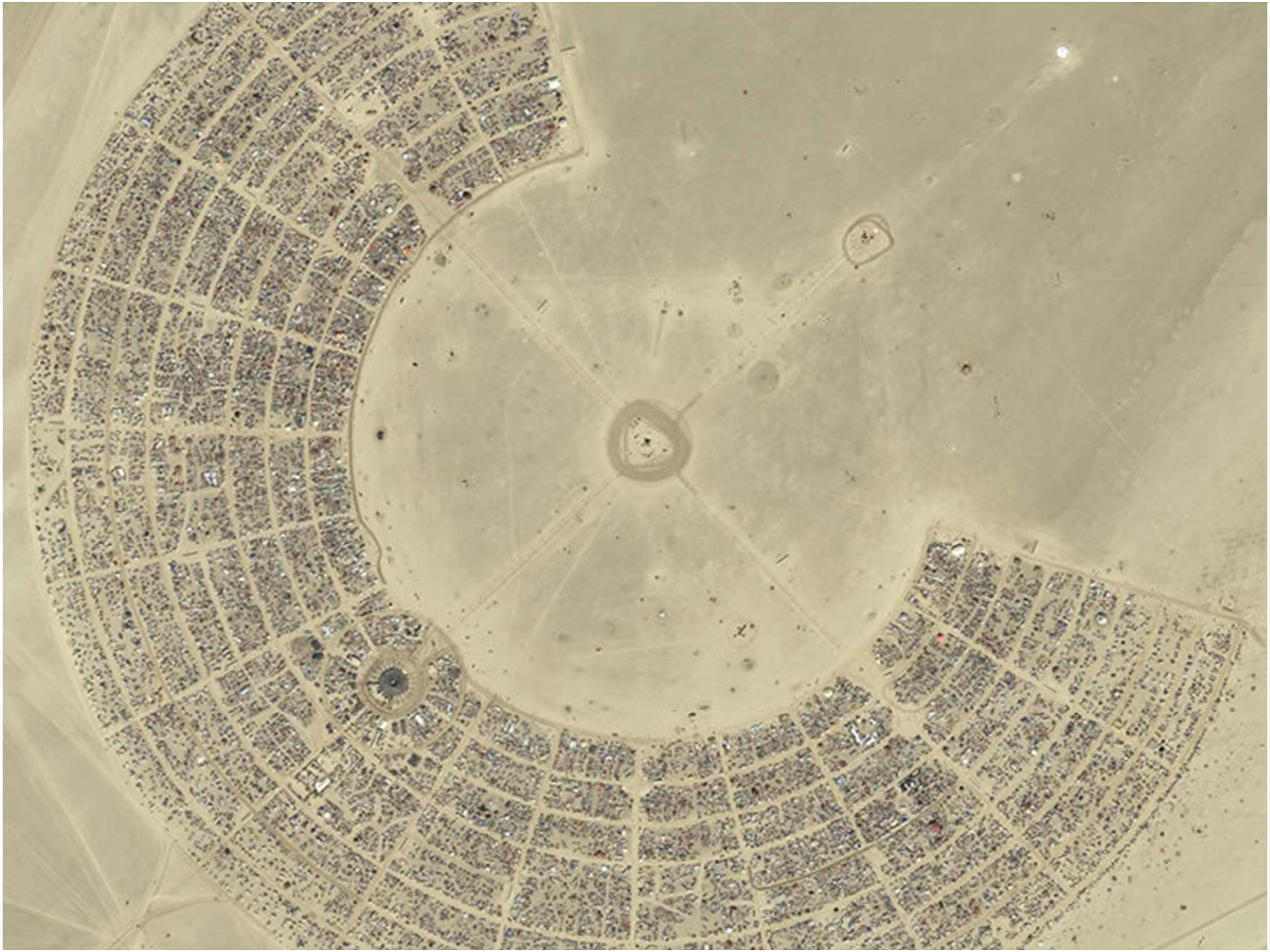
BLACK ROCK
SOLAR
FREE THE SUN



December 17, 2007 10:00 PM PST

Burning Man backs solar-power project for Nevada towns

By Daniel Terdiman
Staff Writer, CNET News

1 comment

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday in Gerlach, Nev., members of the Burning Man community are expected to demonstrate that they mean what they say when they say they try to leave places in better shape than when they found it.

That's because, at the ribbon cutting, a new Burning Man-supported nonprofit called Black Rock Solar plans to publicly unveil its plan for bringing no- or low-cost solar power to public institutions in disadvantaged or financially depressed communities in Nevada and beyond.

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The idea behind Black Rock Solar is to find worthy recipients for whom to donate fully installed solar arrays that can then provide a source of free power for years to come. Black Rock Solar is partnering with MMA Renewable Ventures and Nevada utility company Sierra Pacific Power to provide the labor, expertise, and equipment necessary to get the solar arrays on line.

MMA will donate the equipment, the costs of which will be largely offset by rebates available under Nevada law to public users of solar power.

Already, Black Rock has installed a 30-kilowatt array at a hospital in Lovelock, Nev. Now a Gerlach school--a side-by-side elementary and middle/high

green guide > green

Solar blast

Black Rock Solar Project takes it one roof at a time

By Kat Kerlin
katk@newsreview.com
More stories by this author...

When Tom Price was an environmental reporter, he traveled to the nation of Tuvalu, a string of nine coral islands. The people there have watched the entire country become submerged in water for six hours, with devastating consequences to soil and property. It's the first nation expected by some scientists to be wiped out due to climate change, and it made a strong impression on Price.

"Climate change will be the single largest crisis we face as a planet in the years ahead," said Price, executive director of Black Rock Solar. "The question is, what are we going to do about it?"

He wasn't sure himself until Burning Man 2007, when the theme was Green Man, and Black Rock Solar was born. Solar panels were donated to the event, and when it was over

From left to right, the crew of Black Rock Solar, along with Larry Turpen of Seventh Day Adventist Church, who is second from left: Matthew Deluge, Turpen, Michael Small, Eli Lyon, David Lasky, Richard Scott, Spoon-o Stephenson, Doug Drummond, and Tom Price.

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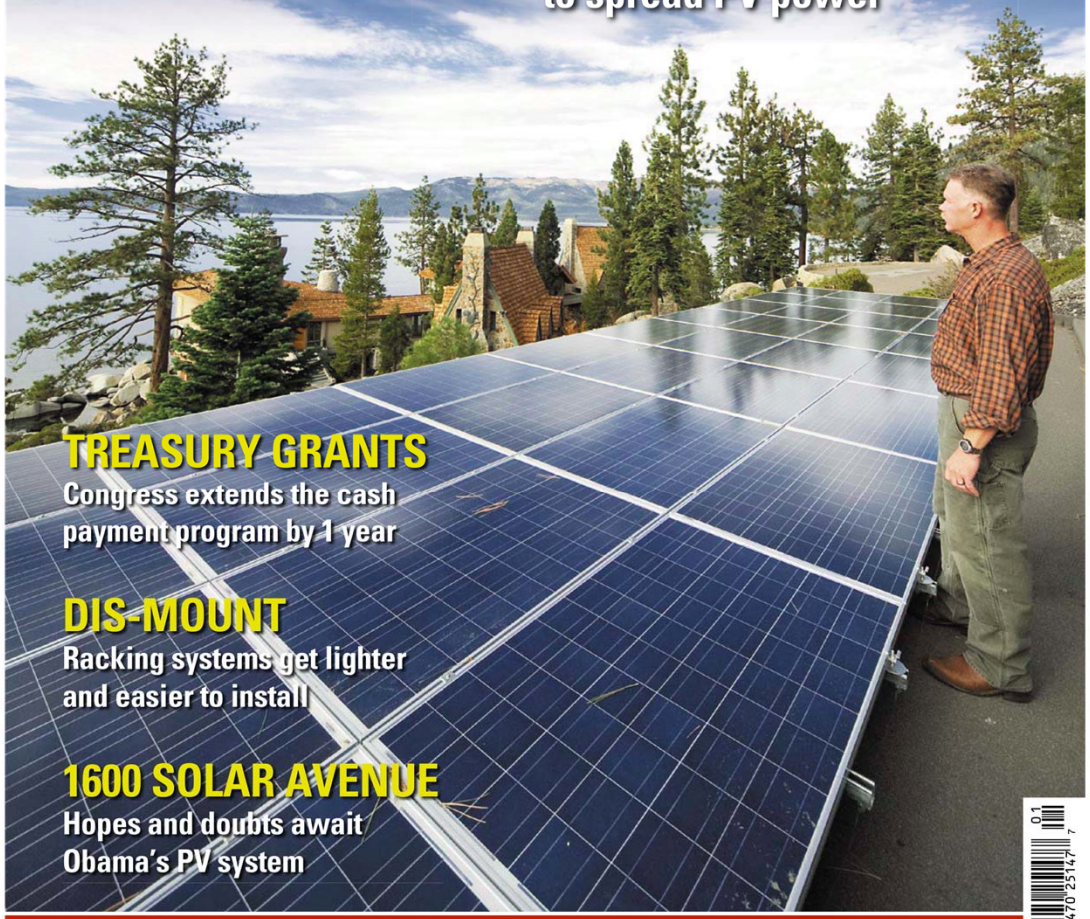

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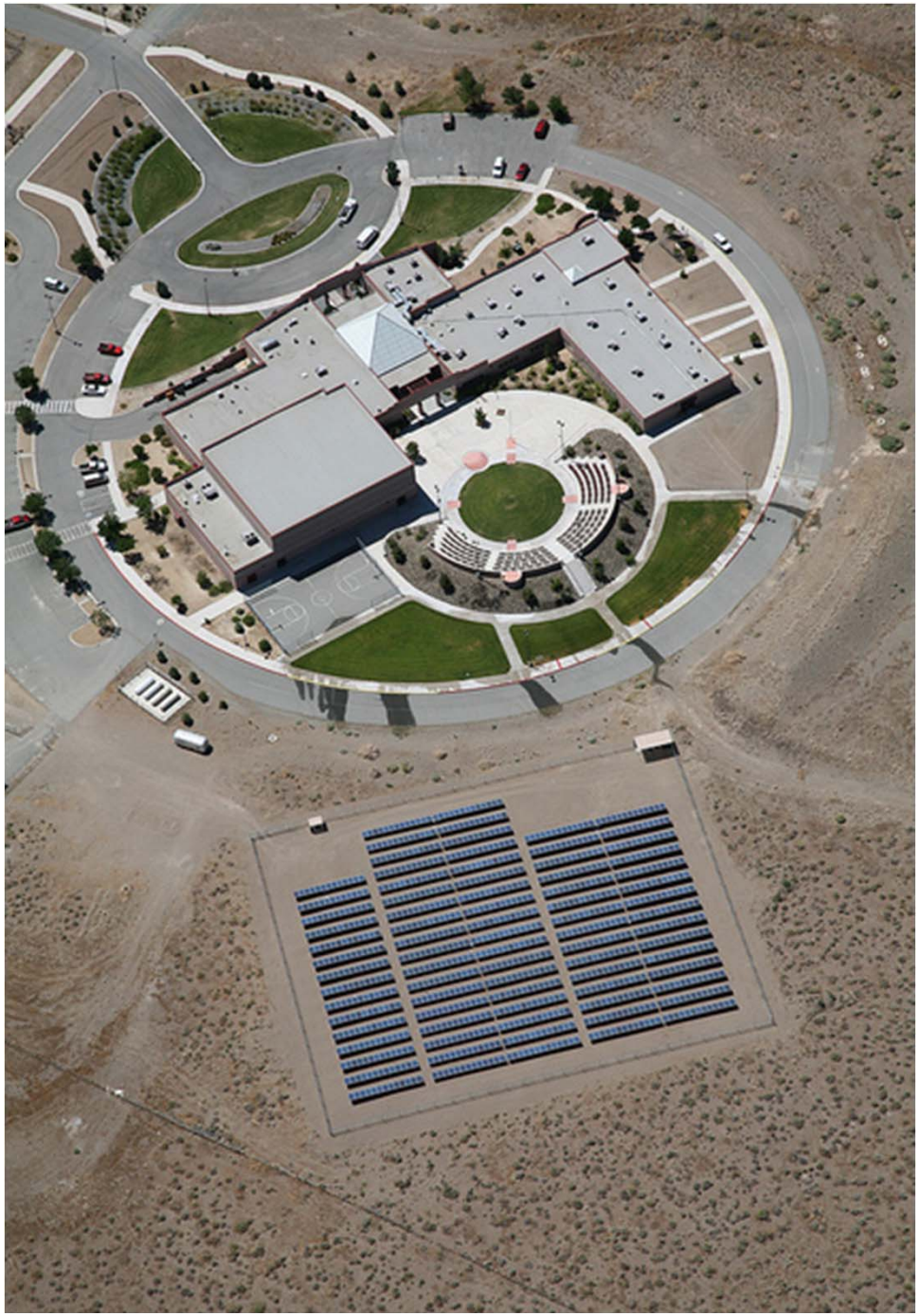
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Medical Clinic

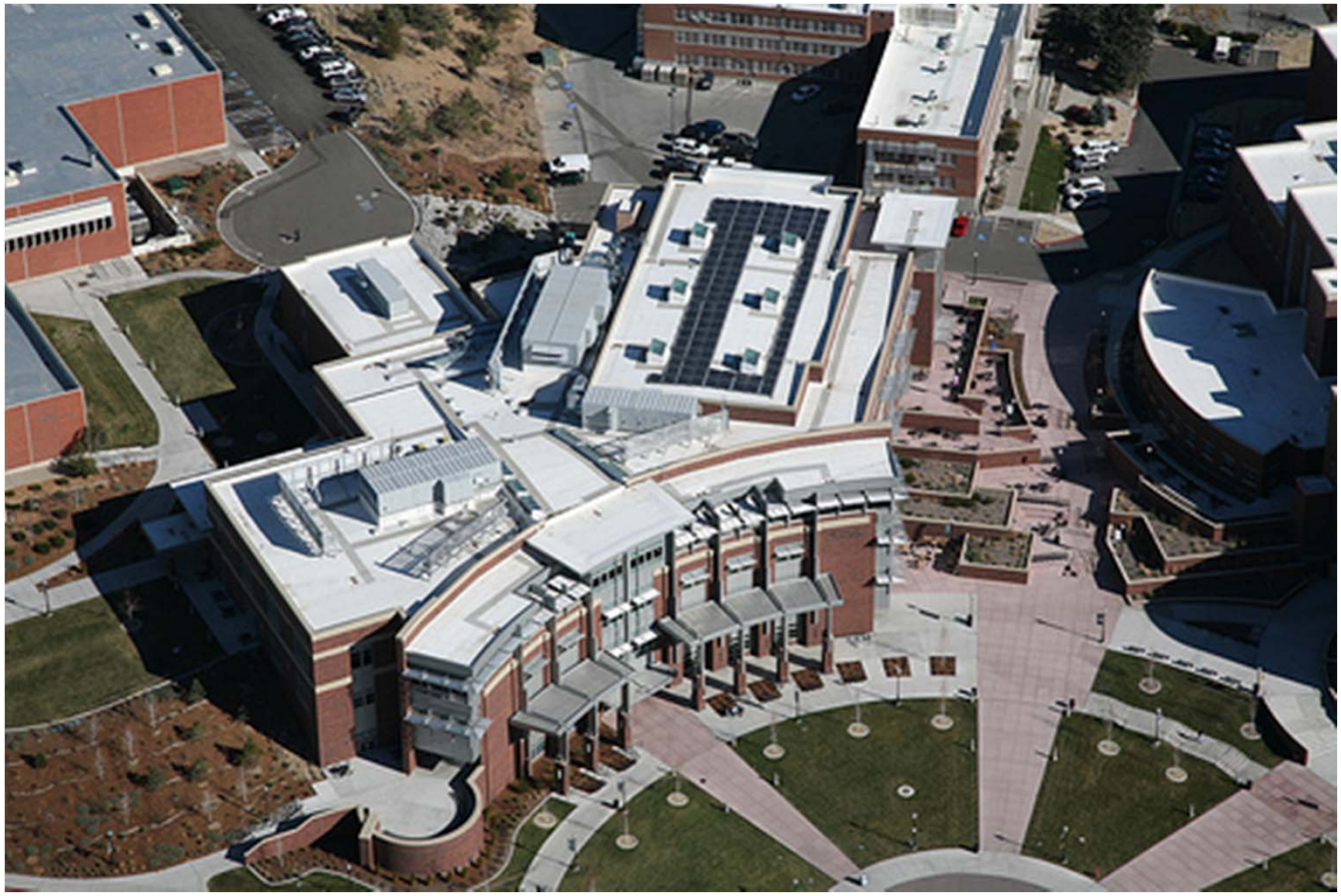


Pyramid Lake High School

Food Bank of Northern Nevada

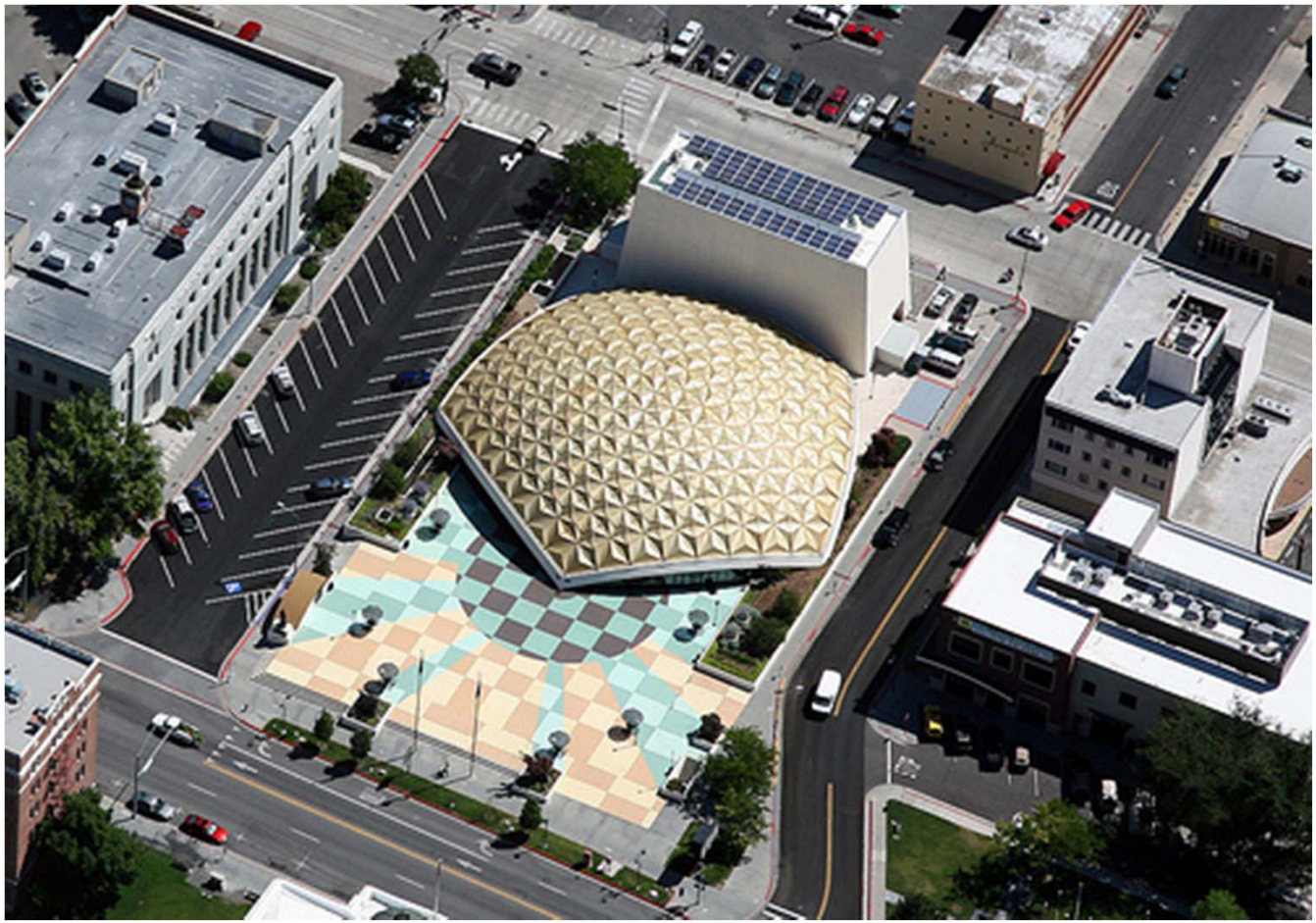
Pyramid Lake Museum & Visitor Center

University of Nevada Reno



Seventh Day Adventist Church

Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts



Bishop Manogue School

Rainshadow Community Charter

Children’s Cabinet 30 kW

Children's Cabinet

Washoe Tribe

- Three arrays
- 125 kW
- Approximate value: $750,000
- Approximate cost to Tribe: $0
- Estimated annual savings: $23,000
- Estimated savings over 25 years: $575,000

FREE THE SUN

BLACK ROCK SOLAR

*** BECOME A SOLAR INSTALLER ***

APPRENTICESHIPS AVAILABLE TO
WASHOE TRIBE

Apply now:

- Paid positions available starting June 1 for seven weeks
- Includes OSHA 10-hour safety and training course
- Work on site with our solar photovoltaic installation crew
- Learn hands-on the skills you need to become a solar installer
- Limited number of positions open to career-minded individuals interested in renewable energy
- Future job opportunities

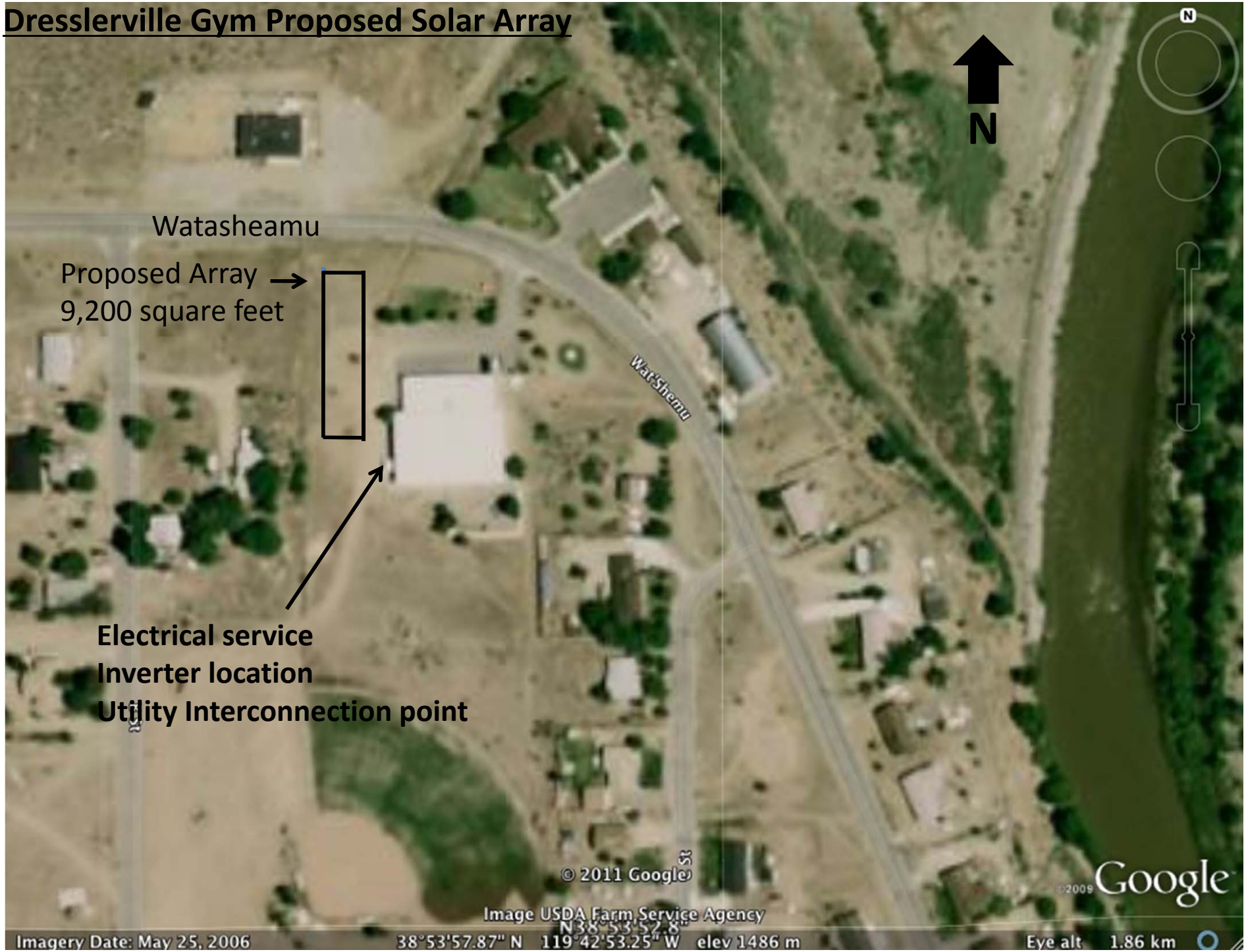
DEADLINE TO APPLY: MAY 15, 2011

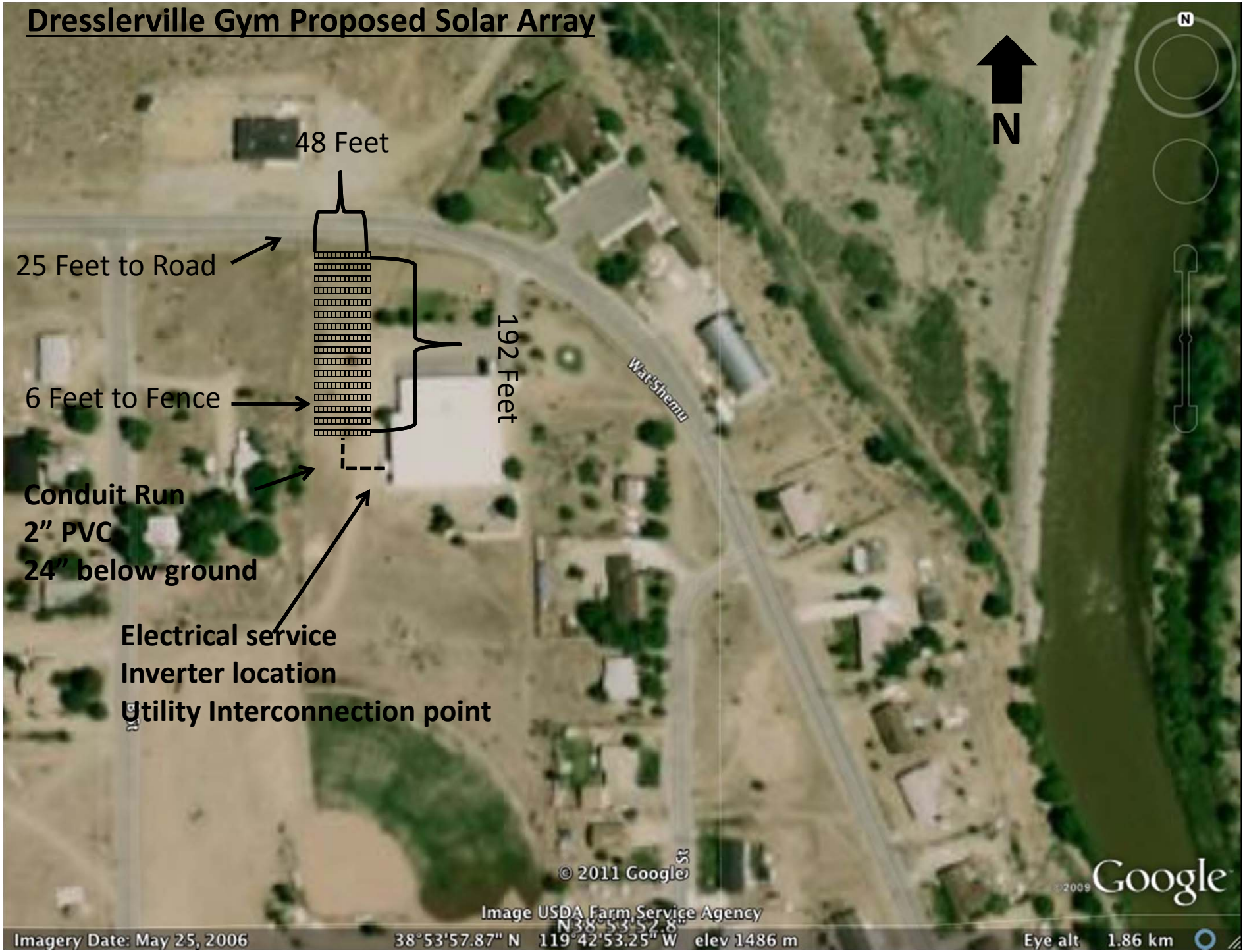
Contact:

Tom Thompson
Construction Manager
Black Rock Solar
tthompson@blackrocksolar.org
(775) 843-8735

www.blackrocksolar.org

Dresslerville Gym Proposed Solar Array




Dresslerville Gym Proposed Solar Array
48 Feet
25 Feet to Road
192 Feet
6 Feet to Fence
Conduit Run
2" PVC
24" below ground
Electrical service
Inverter location
Utility Interconnection point
N
War'Shemu
© 2011 Google
Image USDA Farm Service Agency
Imagery Date: May 25, 2006
38°53'57.87" N 119°42'53.25" W elev 1486 m
Eye alt 1.86 km
Google

Dresslerville Gym Proposed Solar Array

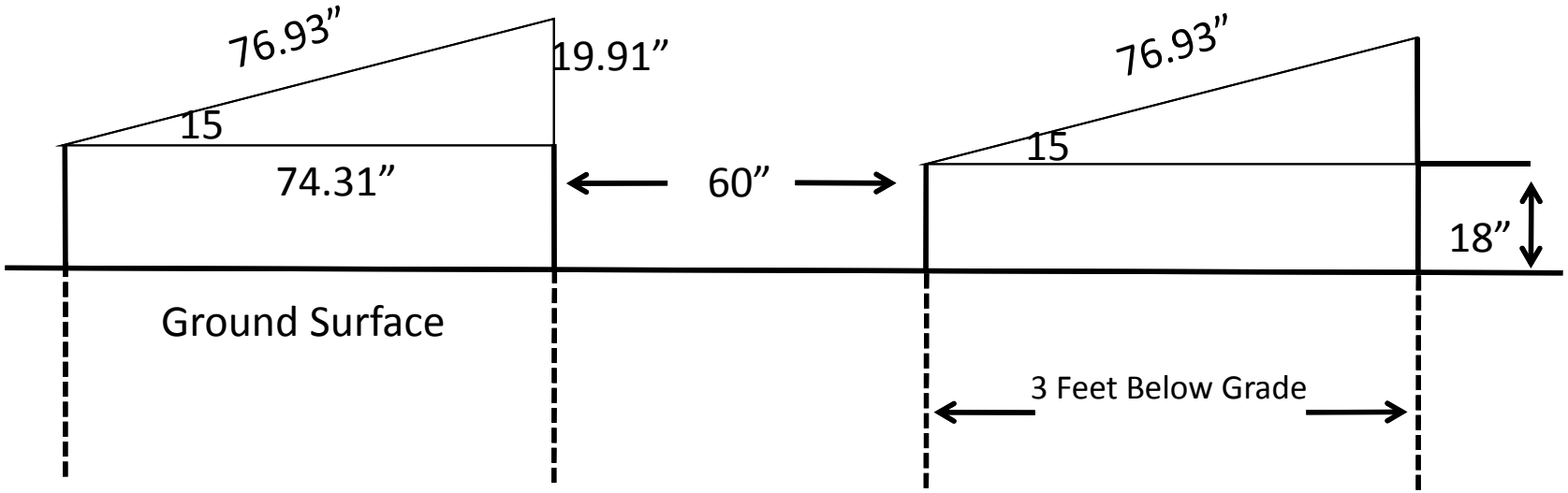
GROUND MOUNTED ARRAY

- 56 kW DC
- 49 kW AC
- (208) ASW 270-watt modules
- Sparhawk ground mount racking system

at 15-degree angle

- Projected savings of $9,100 annually

ARRAY ROW SPACING AND POST PLACEMENT



N
Tribal Health Center Proposed Ground Mounted Solar Array
Conduit Run
24” below ground
Proposed Solar Array
Electrical service
Inverter location
Interconnection point
W119°43'4.8"
Keating Lisa M
© 2011 Google
Image USDA Farm Service Agency
Google
Imagery Date: May 25, 2006
38°54'02.12" N 119°43'03.20" W elev 1486 m
Eye alt 1.97 km

Tribal Health Center Proposed Ground Mounted Solar Array

GROUND MOUNTED ARRAY

- 43 kW AC
- (182) ASW 270-watt modules
- Ground mount on Sparhawk racking system
- Approximately 8,000 square feet including fence
- Projected savings of $7,900 annually

Black Rock Solar

- Paddy McCully, Executive Director
- Marnee Benson, Deputy Director
- John Sturdevant, System Designer
- Tom Thompson, Construction Manager

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