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**Saxon Metzger**

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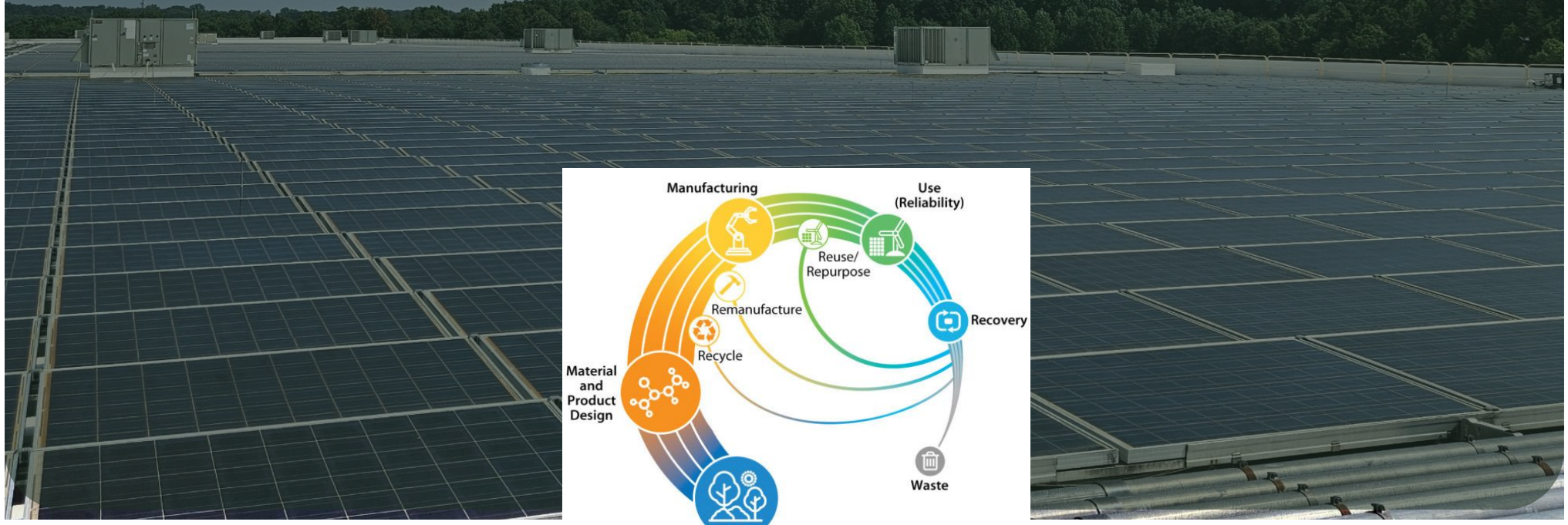
# Indigenous Communities and Decommissioning:

# Understanding the End of the Renewables Lifecycle for Community Optimization

# A Brief Introduction to Solar End-Of-Life/Circularity

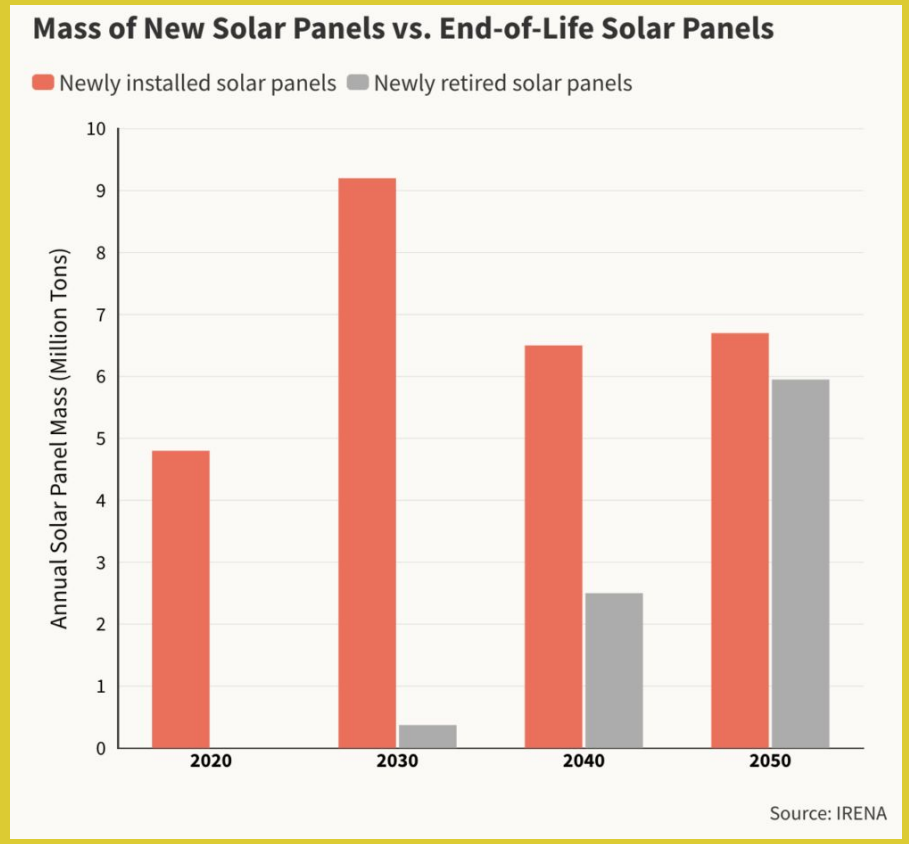
## What is decommissioning?




# Renewable Rebirth: Indigenous Stewardship in Decommissioning

- The spiritual and cultural significance of decommissioning to indigenous tribes– Indigenous people are critically affected by environmental degradation and material extraction
    - Minimal resources to insulate themselves from the consequences
    - World Bank estimate: 80% of biodiversity maintained by indigenous people
    - University of Queensland: 54% of material for energy transition is on indigenous land
    - North America: 75% of lithium, copper and nickel reserves and resources are within 35 miles of Native American reservations.

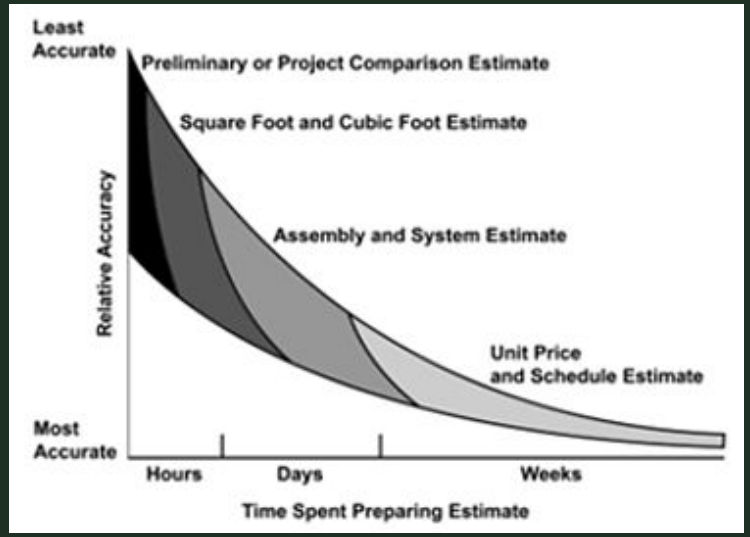
# It's a Big Issue, and Big Business

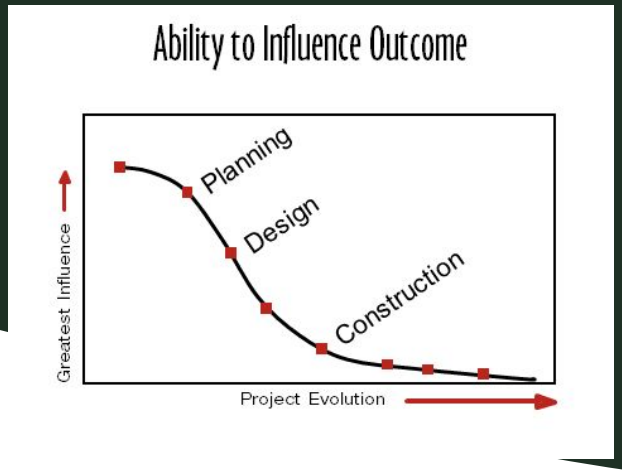


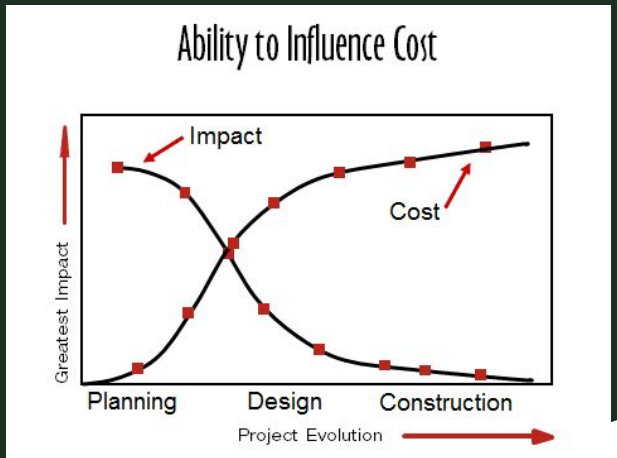
# Best Time to Plan?

- Before you've even estimated the price of a project

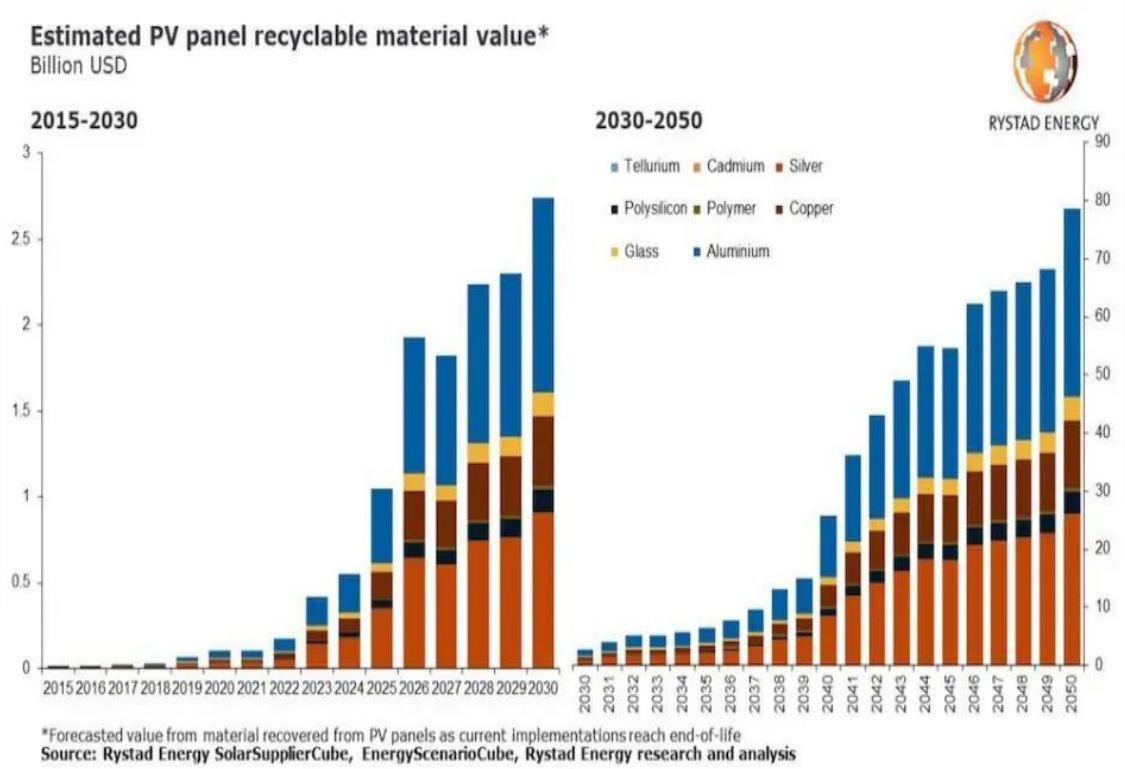
- What happens if you don't?
  - Excess onsite storage of material
  - Bad estimates
  - Last minute pricing
  - Reduced project efficiencies
  - Frustrated clients
  - Bad press and bad photos



# Economic Impacts of Decommissioning




- Financial implications
- Benefits of material recovery

# History and Future of Waste

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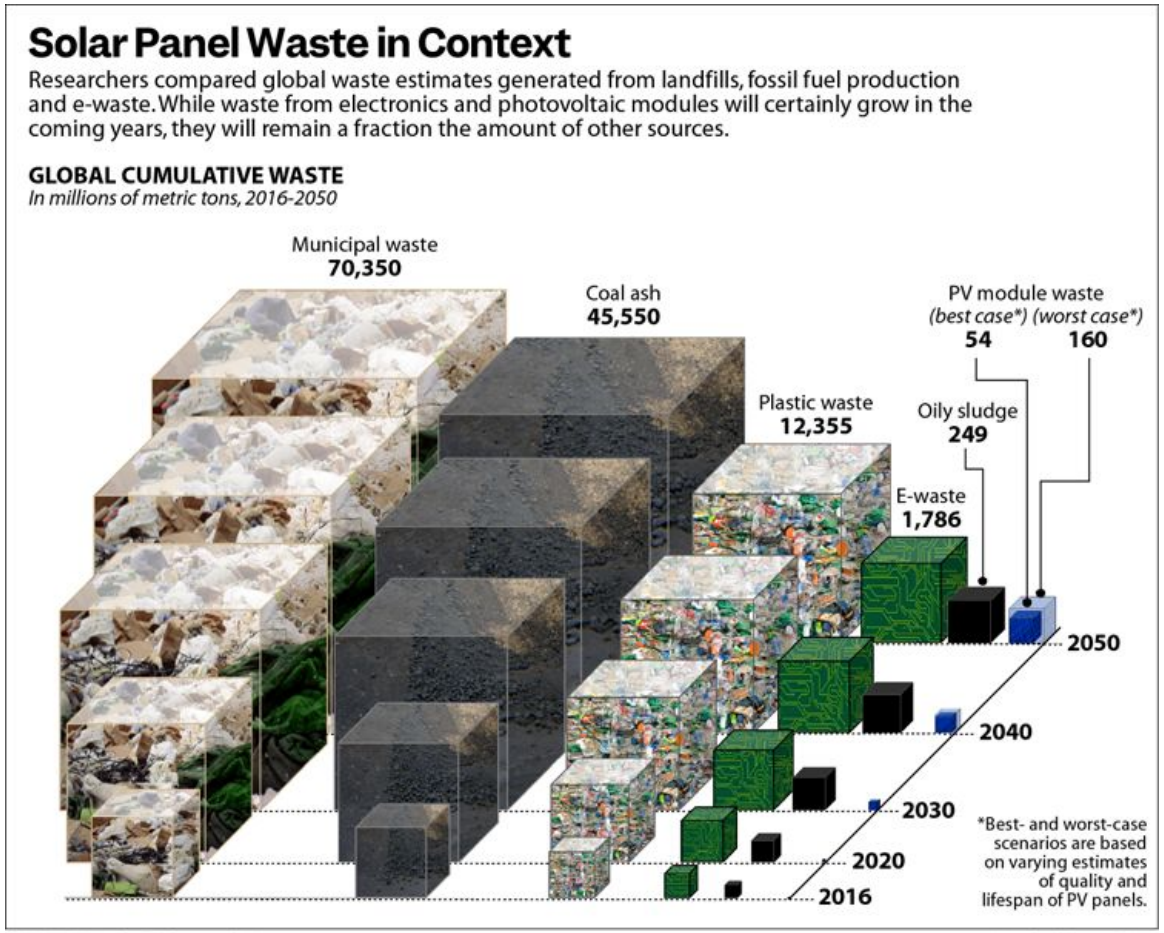

# Closing the Loop: Sustainable Decommissioning for Indigenous Communities

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- 40% of all new panels could be made with material from decommissioning by 2050
- Bad installations and bad siting is waste
- Waste kills - people and communities

# Decommissioning Best Practices: A Tribal Perspective

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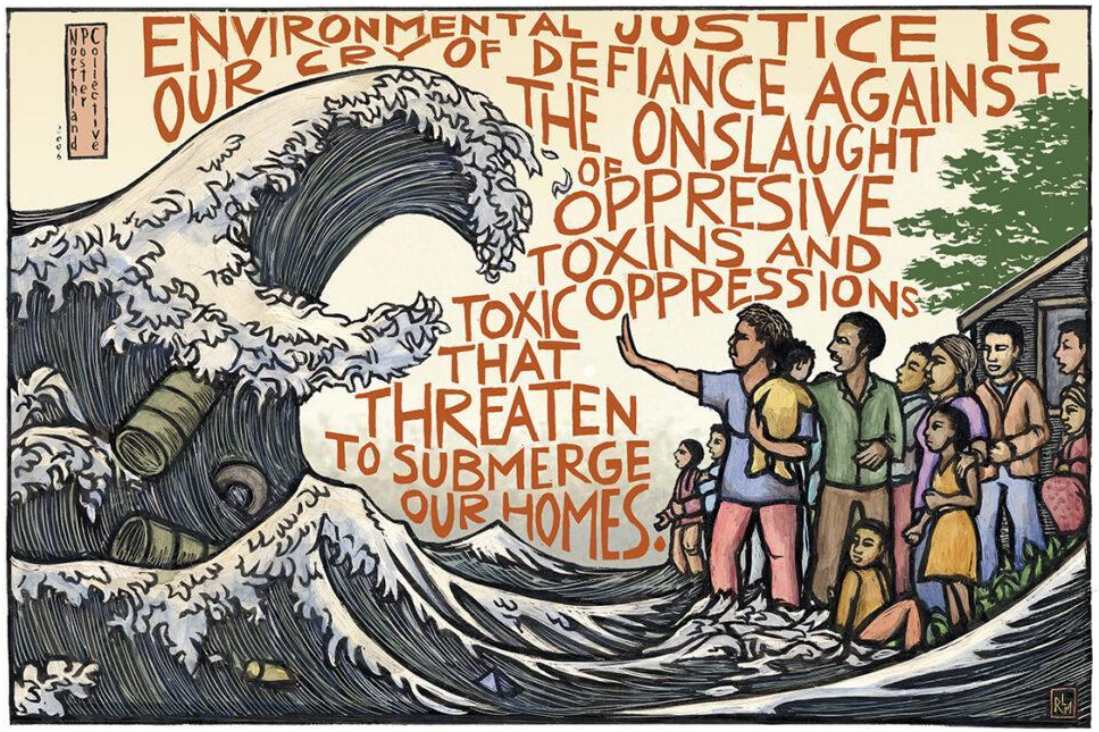
- Community Sensitivity
- Community Engagement

# Empowering Tribes: Renewable Energy Lifecycle and Decommissioning

- The reality is that waste affects indigenous people
    - 90's report: 50% of all tribes were being solicited for hazardous waste
    - History of uranium on Navajo land
- Capacity building is key

# Decisions Shouldn't Be Accidents



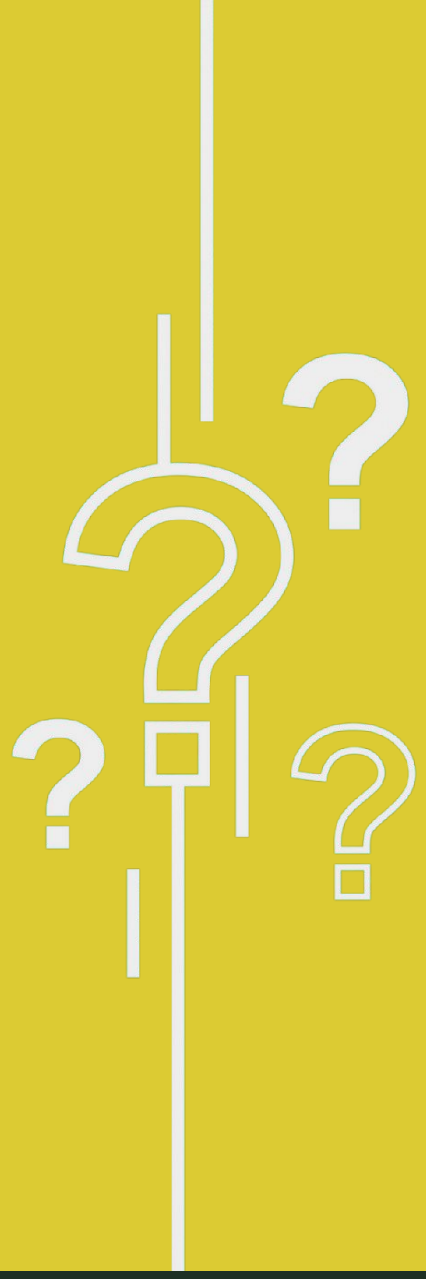

- The choice of a project location will dictate how the project is built, maintained, and treated at end of life
- Infrastructure doesn't just appear
- Decommission planning set and budgeted for decades in advance

# Maximizing Community Benefits: Indigenous Decommissioning Strategies

- Community benefits are real
- Indigenous involvement can enhance these benefits

# Closing the Gap: Tribes and Renewable Energy Decommissioning

- Collaboration is possible
- Partnerships
  - Industry
  - Policymakers



# Questions?

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# THANK YOU

## For Attending!