

MIDLAND TOMORROW

Evergreen Solar: "The Fastest Siting Process We've Ever Been Through"

Evergreen Solar has become one of the fastest-growing solar companies in the world, thanks to the proprietary technology they use to make their String Ribbon™ solar panels. High-temperature filament is drawn through molten polysilicon, allowing the creation of solar wafers with less waste and manufacturing cost.

When Evergreen Solar added in-house manufacturing of high-temperature filament, a critical component of the process, they needed a location that had the chemical industry knowledge to scale up an electro-vapor deposition manufacturing plant – quickly.

Enter Midland, Michigan. The deep chemical industry expertise of Dow Corning Corporation and The Dow Chemical Company has created an understanding of technology



manufacturing that was a natural fit for Evergreen Solar. And Midland Tomorrow worked closely with local and state government to offer Evergreen a package that met their aggressive project time and wetlands issues:

- We worked with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to confirm in three weeks that wetlands were legal for industrial development.
- Approved site plan within 45 days of application and 30 days from submission of the plan itself.
- Expedited air quality permitting through direct contact with state officials.
- Waived \$650,000 in fees for improved electrical infrastructure.
- Facilitated negotiations for wastewater discharge permit.
- Secured \$10 million incentive package from State of Michigan and City of Midland.
- Completed the entire permitting process described above in fewer than 90 days.



After the siting process was complete, Evergreen's vice president commented that Midland's process was the fastest he'd ever been through.

Evergreen is currently scaling up their operations in preparation for a 3Q 2009 launch. The regional workforce, skilled in chemical process operations, ensures that Evergreen has a ready supply of workers to bring the new plant online. They expect their Midland facility to invest a total of \$55 million in the local community and create over 100 permanent jobs over five years.