School of Environment and Natural Resources at The Ohio State University

Solar Consultant Internship

Taeson Slane
MAJOR: Environment, Economy, Development and Sustainability
SPECIALIZATION: Sustainability and Business

Employer Information

I partnered with Curtis Collins Consulting to guide me through the process of creating a consulting company as a Solar Consultant Intern. I then created a company, Ultraviolet Solar LLC and through my internship learned the ins and outs of contracting with a solar dealer. I also learned how to connect clients with lenders and installers. I then contracted with LightSkye Energy, a Georgia based residential solar dealer. I found this internship on LinkedIn.

Mission Statement: We harness the power given and the technology available to create a sustainable future for homeowners and our planet.

Why residential solar? Power bills increase an average of 4.5% annually. Solar is the same every month until you own the asset, adding equity to your home. This takes a liability and turns it into an asset (Your power bill). Solar energy also creates zero greenhouse gas emissions, making residential solar panels an affordable, sustainable option.

Frequent Duties

Client acquisition through contracted companies/self generated through social media and event booths, conducting a Personalized Energy Audit, designing the solar system, explaining government tax credit and financing, explaining the installation process.

Accomplishments

I acquired a client through a booth and scheduled a free consultation. This led to a personalized energy audit, where their average power bill was determined. I then created a solar system that offset 78% of their energy consumption as an annual average. I qualified them for financing with SunPro, a financing company. I explained the government Renewable Energy Tax Credit, which covered 30% of the solar system cost in the form of an income tax credit. I then explained the entire process including the site survey, permitting with the city, state and power company, dealing with HOA's if necessary (it was) and explained the installation process and final inspection.

Environmental Benefits

Solar has no emissions. It just silently generates pure, clean energy.

ABOVE: A screenshot of a solar system I designed for a residential home

ABOVE: A solar system I designed that was installed August 3rd

ABOVE: A 64% energy offset

ABOVE: Graph showing energy production of a solar system I designed with performance set for a 64% energy offset

ABOVE: A solar system I designed with performance set for a 64% energy offset

ABOVE: Image from my software of the environmental benefits this solar system will bring

Frequent Duties

Designing Solar Systems Is Easy and Accurate With Modern Software

Frequent Duties

I am switching to Environmental Health and Safety. This internship taught me communication skills that will be necessary for an EHS career. Particularly with clients.