

Job Description

The Solar Designer and Estimator is an experienced PV designer responsible for the designing, engineering, and cost estimation of solar installations, ranging in size from 10kW to 10 MW and beyond. The designer/estimator is tasked with maximizing efficiencies in the design, budget, and constructability of these solar systems, from RFP or conceptualization through to engineering a ready-to-construct project. They are responsible for providing accurate materials budgets, and complete plan sets to our sales and business development professionals.

This position contributes to the success of Rethink Electric by providing ready-to-build systems to our sales and business development group and to the operations team for self-developed projects, as well as acting as a resource for project managers, superintendents, and foremen; specifically answering RFI's for systems they design and estimate.

At Rethink, the Solar Design and Estimator does not have direct reports, but does mentor, train, and educate project managers, assistant project managers, and interns. Every member of the Rethink team is supported by our overall collaborative nature; from Electricians, Superintendents, and Foremen in the field, to divisions such as Safety, QAQC, Logistics, and Purchasing; all the way through to Senior Management.

The person who would best fit this role would have a solar design or electrical engineering background and would have 1-3 years of experience designing and engineering commercial solar projects as described above and would have 1-3 years of estimating experience on similar types of work.

Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain positive working relationships with developers, suppliers, and the Rethink team. This is sometimes client facing, and requires tact, honesty, and discretion.
- Create accurate and complete system designs, working with the sales and business development group to provide accurate information for an integrated approach to proposals for customers, developers and general contractors.
- Create accurate and complete system plans, to provide project management with ready-to-build projects.
- Actively participate in the review, correction, and value engineering of complete plan sets provided by developers for pricing and for construction. Provide input into potential areas of concern, and value engineering.
- Prepare budgets for the solar installations (whether designed by you or by others), including material takeoffs/ BOM, subcontractor, permitting, and engineering costs.
- Participate in value engineering exercises in both an individual and collaborative nature.
- Assist the sales team with proposal documents through Energy Tool Base and other formats as necessary.
- Understand OSHA regulations, and safety concerns on job sites.
- Work with Sales and Business Development to provide historical data and budgetary information to help ensure a healthy project pipeline.
- Embrace Rethink's standards for quality and accuracy throughout the design and engineering process.
- Work with our QAQC team to provide accurate information as needed for commissioning documentation for projects where Rethink is the EPC or developer.

- Work with field and operations team members, providing input and feedback surrounding the strategic plan for each project as it moves to construction.
- Participate in the job cost review process to ensure that future bidding is accurate and meets our building capabilities.

Qualifications:

- 1-3 years of commercial solar project design and engineering experience.
- 1-3 years of solar system estimating and budgeting, engineering solar systems from concept to construction, project sizes of 10KW and up.
- A background in Solar PV design or Electrical Engineering preferred.
- Experience using design and estimating software, as well as providing input to potential software upgrades preferred.
- Experience using construction management software preferred.
- Ability to execute and deliver results on multiple projects simultaneously.
- Job cost tracking and budgeting expertise.
- Excellent communication skills-this position is often client-facing and collaborates frequently with sales/business development and with operations, and will involve communication, negotiation, and relationship building.
- Work well both independently and within a teamwork-based culture.
- Outstanding organizational skills.
- Must have a reliable form of transportation.
- Location: The Rethink Electric office is in Wood Dale, IL. We offer significant flexibility in location and hours, but the expectation is that some time will be spent in the office each week. This is **not** a 100% remote position.