

EIGHTH  
GENERATION  
CONSULTING



**POLARIS**  
EcoSystems

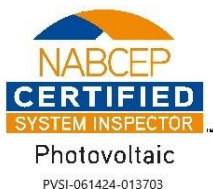
**Saxon Metzger - MBA**  
Founder / President  
Polaris Ecosystems / Eighth Generation Consulting

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### Education and Certifications

Wilmington University, New Castle  
University of Utah, Salt Lake City  
Palomar College, San Marcos  
Google, Palo Alto  
360 Training

M.B.A. with an Emphasis in Sustainability  
B.S. in Economics  
A.A. with an Emphasis in Social and Behavioral Science  
Project Manager Professional Certificate  
ISO 14001: 2015 EMS Lead Auditor Certificate  
OSHA 10/30 Construction + HAZWOPER 40 Certificate  
NFPA 70E (2023) Standard for Electrical Safety Certificate  
NABCEP Certified Photovoltaic System Inspector  
NABCEP Certified PV Technical Sales Professional



### Experience

#### Operations, Estimation, and Project Management

Founder, President, and Chief Operating Officer of Polaris EcoSystems, a C-Corp centered on estimation and project management services for maintenance, repowering, and decommissioning of Utility Scale renewable energy sites for Fortune 500 and 100 leading asset owners, developers, and manufacturers (2024-current). Contracted work includes serving as Lead Contractor Specialist, spearheading Operations for Green Clean Solar through teaming agreements, along with similar relationships with CES and We Recycle Solar to ensure economies of scale and a cohesive breadth of experience. Previously served as Project Development Manager for NuLife Power Services, (2022-2023); Project Developer and Commercial Project Manager developing residential and commercial scale solar and storage assets while performing public speaking engagements to generate public awareness and education at StraightUp Solar, (2022-2024); As Director of Solarize Southern Illinois Group Buy Program, I acted as the primary decision maker for regional decisions involving internal and external stakeholders, including working with the non-profit board and for-profit partners as well as developed community relationships to improve solar siting experience with education and technology literacy initiatives (2021-2022).

#### Grant Management - Principal Investigator

Under the aegis of 8th Generation Consulting, our consulting firm based out of Tulsa, won the 2024 Community Energy Innovation Prize for an American-Made Challenge Manufacturing Ecosystem Track, managed by the Department of Energy and the National Renewables Energy Laboratory, for the project *Renewable Rebirth: Implementing Indigenous Stewardship in Solar and Storage Recycling*. Served as PI/PD on local, state, and federal grants as well as provided grant writing services on a contract basis to actively facilitate and manage teaming partnerships and overall grant application. Experience includes being a community benefit, sustainability, solar, and BESS expert with EPRI, in alignment with federal Justice40 initiatives and white paper development (2023-Present); Primary authorship of grants exceeding \$20 million, including Department of Energy DE-FOA-0003219, DE-FOA-0003120, and DE-FOA-0003226, as well as Puerto Rico's Department of Housing ER-2 Resilience and Reliability program. This work has included developing and maintaining teaming partnerships with dozens of businesses, non-profits, municipalities, research institutions, MSIs, as well as tribal governments and entities.

#### Professor / Educator

Currently serve as a professor, teaching graduate courses in sustainable business, organizational and community development, and economics, (2023-Present). Thesis research in sustainable business around cross sector collaboration and its impact on sustainable business development (2022), noted author and presenter on sustainability, community benefit, and renewables (2021-Present). As a business owner, I am also available for media representation for other firms on behalf of journalists, researchers, and other business professionals. My work has been cited on at least 3 continents and I continue to steward professional relationships in over a dozen countries.

## Courses Taught

*Marketing Analytics* - Graduate Level Course - Fall 2024

*Global Marketing Management* - Graduate Level Course - Fall and Spring 2024, Fall 2023

*Principles of Business Sustainability* - Graduate Level Course - Fall 2024 and Fall 2023

*Fundamentals of Economics* - Undergraduate Level Course - Spring 2024 and 2025, Summer 2024

*Economics II* - Undergraduate Level Course - Spring 2024 and 2025

*Urban Economy and Sustainability\** - Undergraduate Level Course - Spring 2025

\* *Urban Economy and Sustainability* is a new course I designed for Wilmington University's curriculum and I am the course's first instructor of record.

## **Sustainable Community Development and Non-Profit Contributions**

Worked to facilitate sustainable community development: meeting, partnering and working with a wide variety of community organizations such as A.C.E.S.4 Youth, Applied Research Consultants (SIU), Carbondale Community Solar Working Group, Carbondale NAACP, Climate Economy Education Inc., Concerned Citizens of Carbondale, Downstate Caucus of the Climate Table Leadership Team, Geography and Environmental Resources and many more. (2014-Present). Concluded a 5 year tenure on the City of Carbondale's Sustainability Commission as Vice Chair, facilitating municipal and regional sustainability initiatives through management of city resources to create the region's first climate baseline plan as well as comprehensive Sustainability Plan which received full approval by the City Council (2018-2022). Worked with local nonprofits to develop a sustainable food plan to establish community resilience and resolve food insecurity and sustainability issues. Managed logistics for nonprofit and for profit entities to facilitate municipal and regional events, including the largest 5k run in the Tri-State area multiple years in a row. Contributed to cross-border and regional planning while serving on the board of directors for an international nonprofit.

## **Publications/Presentations**

Case study; *Bridging Waters: Indigenous Wisdom and Oceanic Sustainability Models for Transformative Change* at the Integrated Marine Biosphere Research conference IMBIZO 7, an endorsed activity for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

Partnered with [EUCI](#) to facilitate separate [presentation](#) seminars on solar PV circularity/decommissioning and also on recycling. These seminars were certified by the International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA). Presented the following topics:

- *Case Study: A Life Cycle Analysis of Decommissioned Solar in PJM Territory*
- *Critical Lessons for Future Installers to Reduce End-of-Life Costs*
- *Entrepreneurship as Environmental Justice: How to Transform Inclusive Site Selection into an Economic Powerhouse*
- *Environmental Impact and Cross-Border Solutions for Solar Panel Disposal*
- *Exploring the Regulatory Landscape for Decommissioning and Recycling Solar Panels*
- *Funding Opportunities and Resources for Entrepreneurs*
- *Indigenous Communities and Decommissioning: Understanding the End of the Renewables Lifecycle to Optimize Siting for Tribes*
- *Indigenous Perspectives on Sustainability and Entrepreneurship*
- *It's Decommissioned, Now What? Solutions for Removed Solar PV Material*
- *Opportunities and Challenges for Organizations Serving the Future of Solar Decommissioning and Recycling*
- *Protecting our Future: Tools for Sustainable Business to Support Equitable Workforce Development*
- *Renewable Relationship-Building and Collaboration to Support Renewable Enterprises*
- *Solar End of Life Options: Comparing Solar Decommissioning and Repowering*
- *Sustainable and Community-Oriented Manufacturing*
- *Workplace Best Practices in Solar Decommissioning*

Contributed to: CREO Syndicate, 2024. [Seizing an Unforeseen Boom: Giving U.S. Clean Energy Assets a Second Life in Latin America](#). CREO Family Office Syndicate, Inc.

Metzger, S. 2023-2024. University of Utah Lasonde Institute

- [5 Signs Your Company is Not Sustainable](#).
- [5 Tips to Bring Sustainability to your Business](#).
- [5 Ways to Write Better Grant Applications](#)

Metzger, S., Cogie, J., Heyer, S., Mcmorrow-Hunter, A., [City of Carbondale Sustainability Action Plan, Office Government Document](#), 4:21, 2022.

Metzger, S.; [Collaboratively Integrated Sustainability: Modeled Cross-Sector Collaboration as a Method to Generate Support For and Achievement of Environmental and Economic Sustainability Objectives](#), thesis project, 2022.

Metzger S., 2019 [Baseline Inventory of Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Official City of Carbondale Document](#), 2:1, 2022.

### **Public Appearances**

2024: Energy News Network , Chicago IL, [“Indigenous Solar Consultant Works to Ensure Responsible Development in Communities Scarred by Fossil Fuels”](#)

2024: Solar Decommissioning 101: Valuable Lessons to Avoid an Unsustainable Future, American Solar Energy Society, SOLAR 2024.

2023: City Council Meeting April 26, 2022, City of Carbondale, IL, “Resolution Adopting the Carbondale Sustainability Action Plan.”

2023: Palomar News, San Marcos, CA. [“Alumnus Credits Palomar College for his Success”](#)

2023: Schmid, M. [“Solar End-of-Life Special Projects: An Interview with NuLife Power”](#)

2023: Matern, M., Metzger, S. *A Climate Change*. [“Saxon Metzger: Solar Project Development Manager of NuLife Power Services.”](#)

2023: Lyderson, K. *Energy News Network*, [“Illinois Wants to Keep Old Solar Panels From Piling up in Landfills.”](#)

2022: Lyderson, K. *Energy News Network*. [“In Southern Illinois There’s Growing Faith that Clean Energy Transition Will Pick Up.”](#)

2022: Seabaugh, J. *KFVS 12*. [“Carbondale Recognized as a Leader in Climate Planning”](#)

2021: Briane, J. *WSIL*. [Local expert weighs in on push for more solar power](#)

2021: Gaston, J. *The Daily Egyptian*. [Carbondale Community Resilience Fair introduces environmental changes to the community](#)

## Awards and Honors

- 2024: Cross-Sector Consulting for Tribal and Municipal Clean Energy Siting, Permitting, and Community Development Vouchers, U.S. Department of Energy's Energywex Program
- \$100,000 voucher for work with Rappahannock Tribe configuring tribal buildings and agricultural spaces with solar infrastructure. This work is focused on job training, workforce development, and cultural preservation of the Rappahannock people
  - \$100,000 voucher for work with the Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe in equipping their farm, which feeds many of their tribal members through weekly community food deliveries, with solar infrastructure
  - \$100,000 voucher for work with Catawba Hospital in outfitting their facility with cost-saving solar infrastructure. Hospital staff have reallocated the funds saved through this project back to patient care
  - \$100,000 voucher to develop an agrivoltaics system on Piedmont Environmental Council's community farm – an experimental project to gauge solar energy's effectiveness in crop growth while concurrently feeding local community members with resulting produce
  - \$100,000 voucher for work with the City of Tacoma to evaluate a fluidized-bed waste gasification and gas processing facility's conversion of municipal solid waste into fuel
- 2024: Tribal Energy Innovators Fellowship, GRID Alternatives Tribal Solar Accelerator Fund
- 2024: MIT Solver Class of 2024
- 2024: Community Energy Innovation Prize from the DoE and NREL with their American-Made Challenge Manufacturing Ecosystem Track, for the project: *Renewable Rebirth: Implementing Indigenous Stewardship in Solar and Storage Recycling*.
- 2024: Invited to present 7 different accredited presentations for 2024, including with EUCI, the American Solar Energy Society, and at the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development IMBIZO 7.
- 2024: Published in Native Forward for an article on legal and cultural developments for indigenous higher education.
- 2023-2024: Serve as a mentor for indigenous students through the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.
- 2023: Named 30 Under 30 in Energy by NextEra for contributions to work in solar photovoltaic power generation and end of life considerations in solar PV and energy storage.
- 2022: Received honors for my work as Primary Author of the City of Carbondale's Sustainability Plan through international recognition from the United Nations at the 2022 Biodiversity COP 15.
- 2022: Awarded the Les Nelson Award by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) for leadership in sustainability and the renewables industry
- 2022: Thanked by the City of Carbondale for my Primary Author and Vice Chair roles writing the city's Sustainability Plan. Also recognized by the City of Carbondale for managing the city's participation in the ICLEI international Cohort of Cities.
- 2021: Awarded Graduate Student of the Year by Native Forward for my studies in the Master's program at Wilmington University.
- 2021: Awarded Graduate Student of the Block by Wilmington University
- 2019: My work on sustainability planning for nonprofit and for-profit institutions in Illinois was honored with a Greenspot award for my contributions.

2014-2019: Earned public commendation for successfully completing numerous local and state grant initiatives as a sustainable and community development consultant and project administrator.

2014: Accepted the prestigious Chancellor's Scholarship for my undergraduate education, the highest honor available from the institution. Dean's List for all semesters of attendance by the University of Utah.

2013: Awarded the Marc Ouimet Service Award for public service and my teaching and organizational functions as Assistant Director of the Palomar College Speech and Debate Team at 17

2012: Awarded Debater of the Year by Palomar College at 16, in recognition of my achievements as the youngest national champion in Lincoln-Douglas and Parliamentary style debate.

2011: Awarded Platformer of the year by Palomar College at 15, after several state and national wins as the youngest public speaker successfully competing in the collegiate forensics circuit.