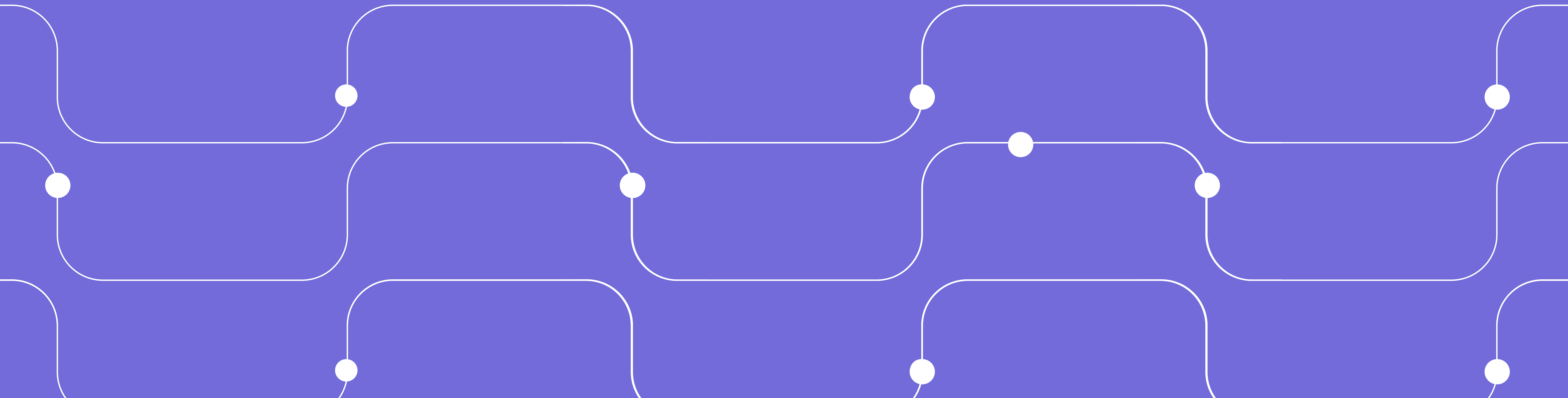


Burns & McDonnell: Evaluating more and larger projects with agility



01 The Client

02 Challenges

03 Why
RatedPower?

04 Results



01 *The Client*

1898 & Co. is a global business and technology consultancy arm of Burns & McDonnell.

For years, multidisciplinary teams inside **Burns & McDonnell** have come together to support clients and engineering and construction teams with strategic insight, technological know-how and financial experience. They provide a unique blend of engineers and industry specialists to bring together business insights with leading technical capabilities. 1898 & Co. partners with clients to plan, invest in, secure and optimize critical assets for a successful future.

Robert Wright, our interviewee, is the Director for Solar and Storage, leading their consulting team in solar and storage strategy, development, and transaction advisory. Alongside their team, he works with clients to provide actionable plans for their renewable portfolio development.

Burns & McDonnell Success Story

As the power industry takes center stage during the global energy transition, it must be prepared to reinvent itself by embracing change while navigating the headwinds. Transformational technologies and business model shifts offer significant value but must account for an evolving workforce, customer expectations and regulatory uncertainty. As part of Burns & McDonnell and its more than 120 years of power experience, we deliver solutions that work in the real world, not just exist on the drawing board.”

Robert Wright
Director for Solar and Storage



02 Challenges

As the U.S. energy market undergoes rapid change with **explosive growth in solar projects**, service companies like Burns and McDonnell evaluate options for the best way to keep pace.

Solar plant design is influenced by myriad factors, including parcel size, terrain and proximity to transmission, that are constantly shifting during project development. **Using CAD based design at this stage is not economically efficient and as a result**, Burns and McDonnell would historically only evaluate a few design scenarios per site totaling a few gigawatts per year.

Robert Wright summarized the challenges the team was facing before finding a solution as:

- Teams would wait to **spend time and money** on CAD design until solar project was mature enough.
- Running **design iteration is cumbersome, expensive** and time consuming
- All these processes were **limiting the team** to run fewer design variations



Embark yourself on a journey of understanding the immense value that solar software brings to the table with this ebook created with our colleagues at Enverus.

[Discover more](#)

03 *Why RatedPower?*

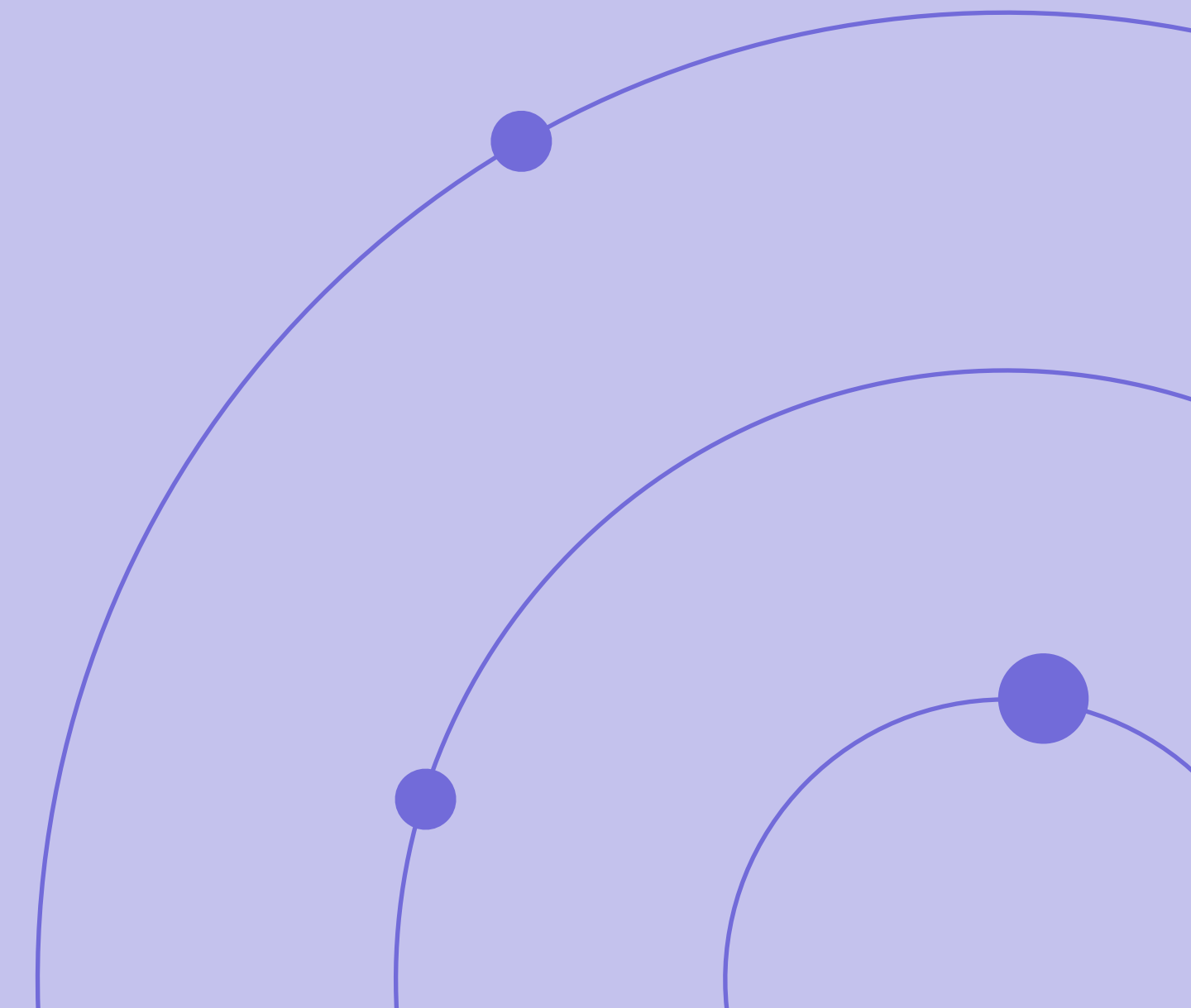
After evaluating multiple design options, Burns and McDonnell selected RatedPower, **a cloud-based solution that enables it to rapidly create preliminary utility-scale solar plant designs**. They started using RatedPower platform to plan, design and optimize solar power plants. This enabled Robert's team at Solar and Storage to assess multiple "what if" scenarios for optimal design.

Robert concluded that RatedPower was a non-CAD solution for simple or complex terrain, and he highlighted how quick the platform works.

"My team evaluated four options before selecting Enverus RatedPower, a perfect solution for early-stage iterations that has allowed us to try an order of magnitude more permutations for our clients. With RatedPower, we can quickly filter down sites from what is possible to what is realistic."

Robert Wright

Director for Solar and Storage at Burns & McDonnell



04 Results

Leveraging RatedPower, **engineers and non-specialists alike at Burns and McDonnell can easily evaluate multiple “what if” scenarios** based on different solar plant requirements, constraints and pricing assumptions, then select the optimal project layout and cost model.

Some of the **benefits** of using RatedPower platform our interviewee highlights are:

The company could **increase the number of solar projects** it supports an order of magnitude. RatedPower accelerated solar design from 5 GW to 30 GW per year.

Robert’s team could **empower their clients to make better informed decisions** based on accurate price points.

This solution also improved their business pipeline, as they were able to **evaluate larger early stage development projects** for more clients.

Before RatedPower, there was a high level of variability, simple land layout to more irregular layouts. With RatedPower, once we have the restricted areas identified, it is easy to iterate in the same amount of time.”

Robert Wright
Director for Solar and Storage





Start accelerating your PV plant design and engineering today

Speed up the design and engineering process of large-scale solar PV projects to boost teams' efficiency, increase accuracy, and reduce the construction costs of PV plants. [Learn more about RatedPower.](#)

