

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering



# 115/34.5kV Solar Plant & Substation Senior Design Project

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| Senior Design Team 41

| 10/17/2024

## AGENDA

- Safety Moment
- New Technology
- Voltage Drop Calculation
- Expand on Cost Estimations
- Drawings for Project

# Safety Moment

## • Relevant IEEE Safety Standards

1. [IEEE 1584-2018](#) – Arc-Flash Hazard Calculations
  - Determines incident energy to select proper **PPE** and ensure safe working distances.
2. [IEEE 80-2013](#) – Substation Grounding Safety
  - Ensures proper **grounding grid design** to prevent dangerous step and touch potentials.
3. [IEEE C37.20.7-2017](#) – Arc-Resistant Switchgear
  - Provides guidelines for **circuit breaker testing** to protect personnel from internal arc faults.
4. [IEEE 524-2016](#) – Overhead Line Installation
  - Focuses on **safe installation practices** for transmission lines, including fall protection and PPE.

## New Technology

### Solar Ocean Farms

1. **Definition:** represent an innovative solar technology that integrates solar power generation with offshore environments. These farms involve floating solar arrays installed on bodies of water, including oceans, lakes, and reservoirs.
2. **Advantages:**
  - **Land Conservation:** By using water surfaces, Solar Ocean Farms reduce the need for large land areas, which is crucial in densely populated regions.
  - **Cooling Effect:** The water helps cool the solar panels, increasing their efficiency compared to land-based systems.
  - **Potential for Synergies:** Floating solar farms can be combined with aquaculture or offshore wind to maximize energy and resource use.

#### Example:

The floating solar farm in Singapore which is known as the [Tengeh Reservoir Floating Solar Farm](#)

## Voltage Drop Calculation

**Voltage drop** is defined as the amount of voltage loss that occurs through all or part of a circuit due to conductor resistance.

### Factors Affecting Voltage Drop

- **Wire Material:**
  - Copper (low resistance, better conductor)
  - Aluminum (higher resistance, more cost-effective)
- **Wire Size:**
  - Larger cross-sectional areas (thicker wires) result in lower resistance and less voltage drop.
- **Wire Length:**
  - Shorter cable runs reduce voltage drop.

### wire size selection:

- **High Current Sections:** For sections with high current (**up to 300 amps**), **3/0 AWG** wires are appropriate for distances around 28-40 feet.

- **Lower Current Sections:** For smaller current sections (e.g., **40-55 amps**), **8 AWG** wires would work for short distances up to **40-50 feet**.

$$\text{Voltage Drop} = 2 \times L \times I \times R / 1,000$$

Where:

- L = Cable length in ft
- I = max Current in amps
- R = Resistance

Current(A)	0-18	18AWG	16AWG	14AWG	14AWG	14AWG	12AWG	12AWG	10AWG	10AWG
	18-24	16AWG	14AWG	14AWG	14AWG	12AWG	12AWG	10AWG	10AWG	10AWG
	24-35	14AWG	12AWG	12AWG	10AWG	10AWG	8AWG	8AWG	6AWG	6AWG
	35-40	12AWG	12AWG	10AWG	10AWG	8AWG	8AWG	6AWG	4AWG	4AWG
	40-55	10AWG	10AWG	8AWG	8AWG	6AWG	4AWG	3AWG	2AWG	2AWG
	55-80	8AWG	6AWG	6AWG	4AWG	3AWG	2AWG	2AWG	1AWG	1AWG
	80-105	6AWG	6AWG	4AWG	3AWG	2AWG	1AWG	1/0AWG	2/0AWG	2/0AWG
	105-140	4AWG	3AWG	2AWG	1AWG	1/0AWG	2/0AWG	2/0AWG	3/0AWG	3/0AWG
	140-165	3AWG	2AWG	1AWG	1/0AWG	2/0AWG	2/0AWG	3/0AWG	3/0AWG	4/0AWG
	165-190	2AWG	2AWG	1AWG	1/0AWG	2/0AWG	2/0AWG	3/0AWG	4/0AWG	
	190-220	1AWG	1AWG	1/0AWG	2/0AWG	3/0AWG	3/0AWG	4/0AWG		
	220-260	1/0AWG	2/0AWG	2/0AWG	3/0AWG	4/0AWG				
	260-300	2/0AWG	3/0AWG	3/0AWG	4/0AWG					
	300-350	3/0AWG	4/0AWG							
350-405	4/0AWG									
Renogy	0-13	13-18	18-23	23-28	28-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	
	Length(ft.)									

<https://www.renogy.com/learning-center/size-wire-accessory/pv-wire-options?srsltid=AfmBOopES7GXqGmNTbayH69M1yuxI9-4Lf0DnLYvj-yFdqhrvalEiLY2>

## COST ESTIMATION

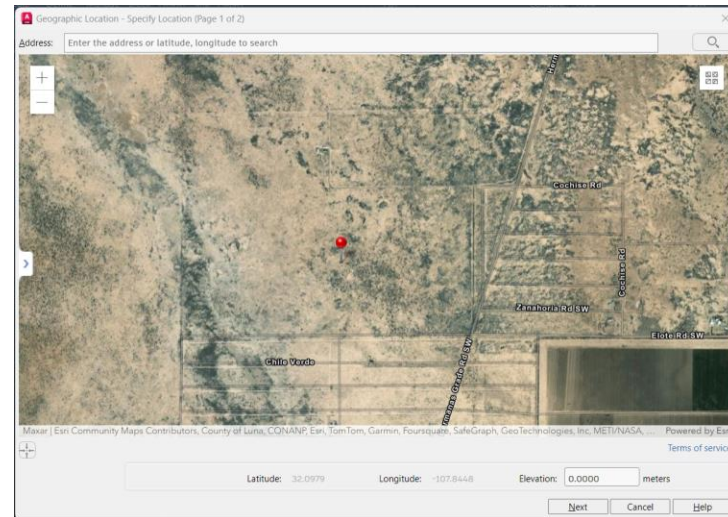
- Solar cells

\$ 250 per panel

- 7540 panels total
- \$1,885,000
- Combiner boxes
- Skids
- Land: 162 Acres, \$ 2,000 per acre
- Labor
  - Average Salary in New Mexico: \$ 18-24 per hour per worker
  - Workday: 8 hours
  - 6+ months for labor
- Average EE salary in New Mexico: \$ 104,272- Per month is around \$ 8,700
- 3-6 Months for planning/ engineering phase as well

## AutoCAD Drawings Progress

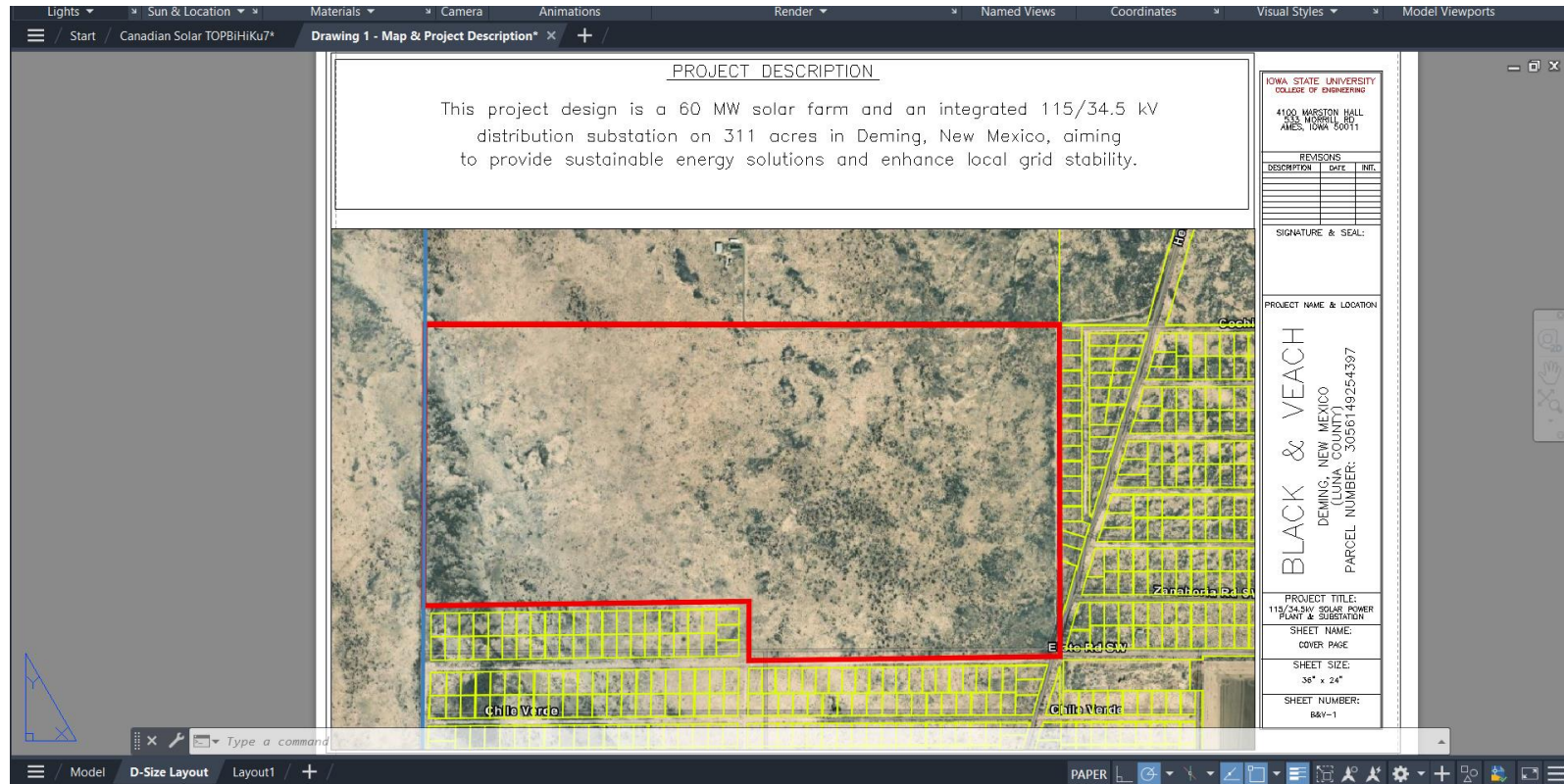
- Listing: [https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/0-Hermanas-Grade-Rd-SW-Deming-NM-88030/346215623\\_zpid/](https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/0-Hermanas-Grade-Rd-SW-Deming-NM-88030/346215623_zpid/)
- Parcel #: 3056149254397
- Property Layout: <https://app.regrid.com/us/nm>





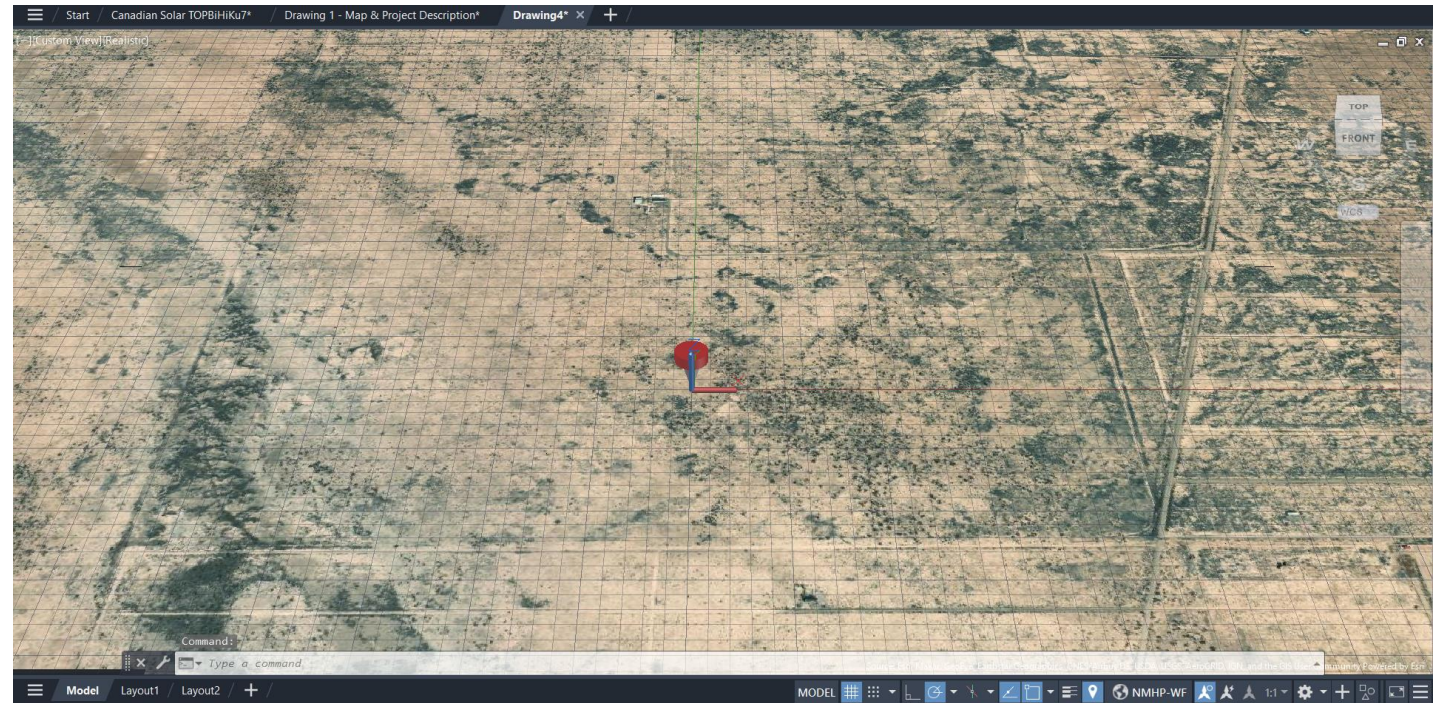
# AutoCAD Drawings Progress

- Initial AutoCAD designs started
- Design location & project description



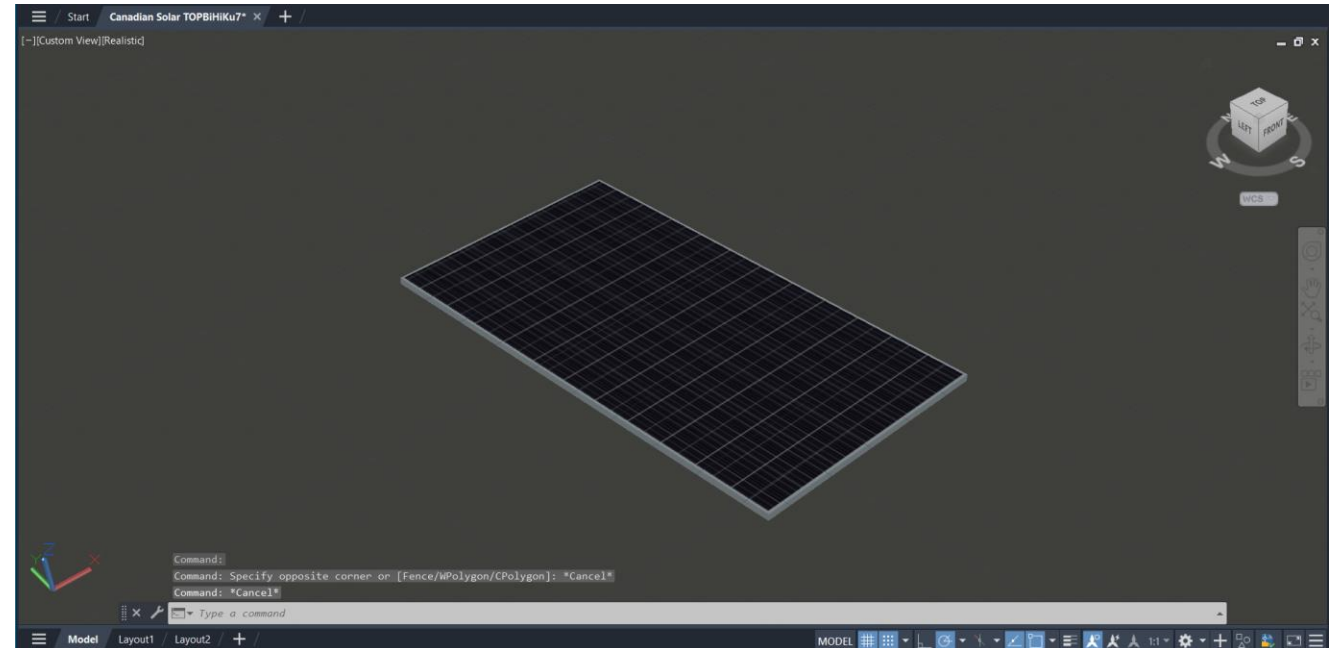
# AutoCAD Drawings Progress

- Location in AutoCAD



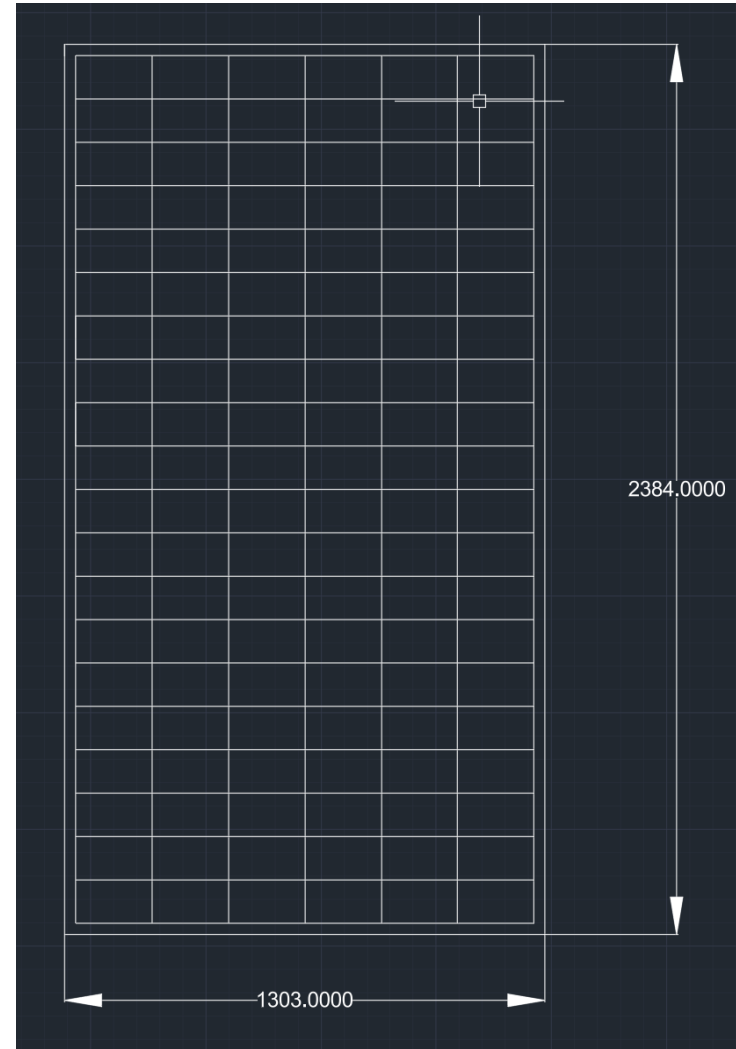
# AutoCAD Drawings Progress

- Canadian Solar TOPBiHiKu7 Solar Panels



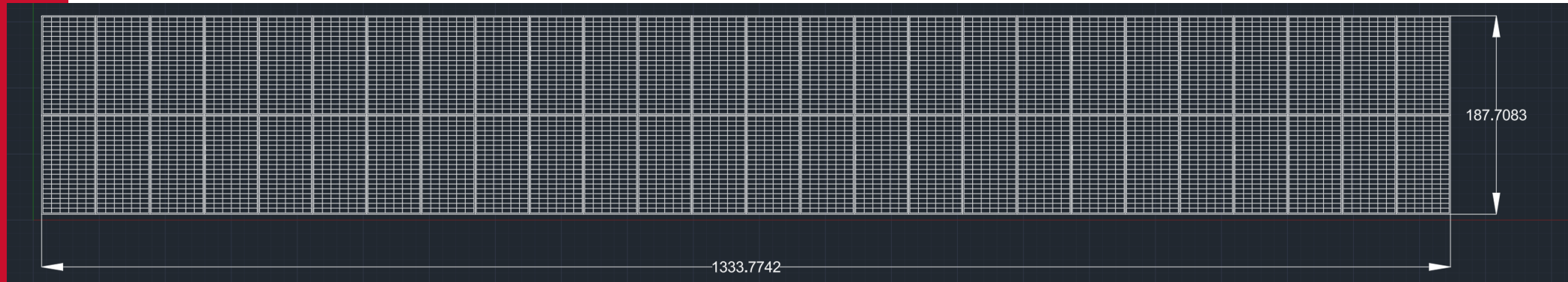
MECHANICAL DATA	
Specification	Data
Cell Type	TOPCon cells
Cell Arrangement	132 [2 x (11 x 6) ]
Dimensions	2384 x 1303 x 33 mm (93.9 x 51.3 x 1.30 in)

## AutoCAD Drawings Progress



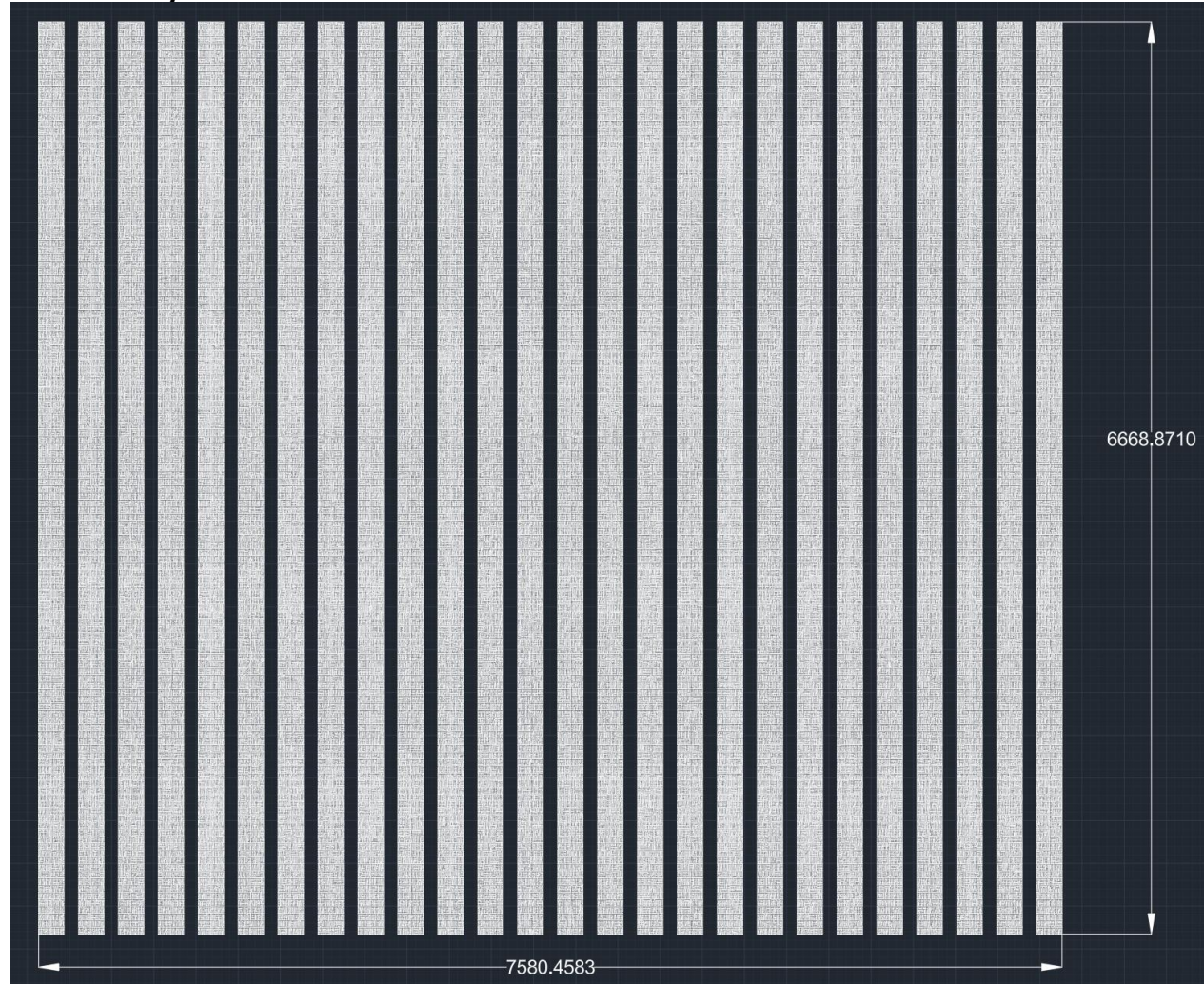
# AutoCAD Drawings Progress

- Rack



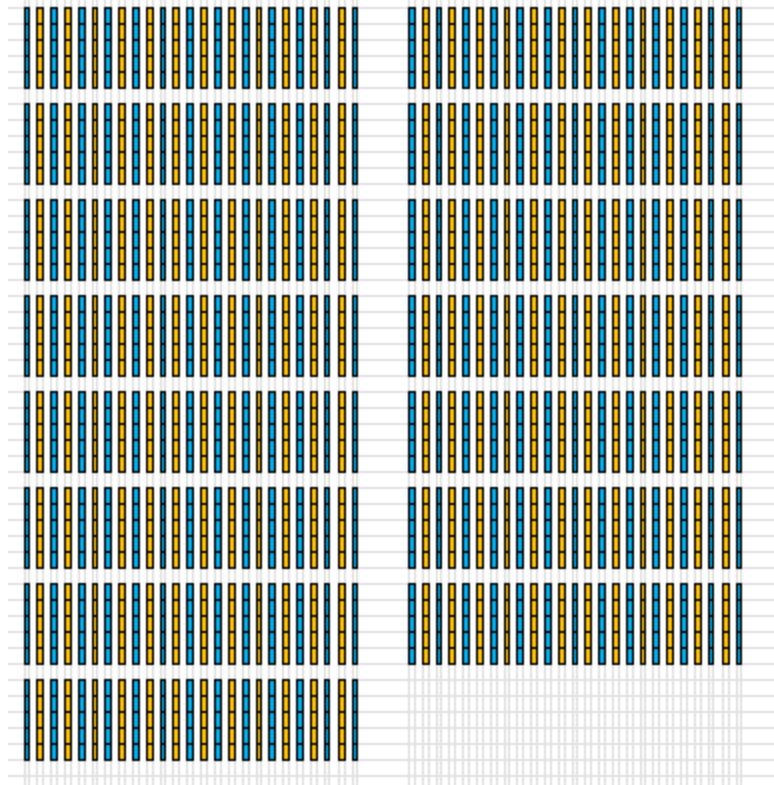
# AutoCAD Drawings Progress

- Array



## AutoCAD Drawings Progress

- Full Array – Final Design TBD



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THANK YOU

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