# Wood County Solar Project

May 2022 • Newsletter

## **BY THE NUMBERS**

**Percent Complete** 

Piles	100%
Trackers	<b>65%</b>
Panels	20%
Electrical	90%
Substation	80%
Gen-Tie Station	70%

Visit **alliantenergy.com/woodcountysolar** for more details and updates.

## Learn More

Alliant Energy is leading the transition to a clean energy future through the Wood County Solar Project and 11 other utility-scale solar projects across Wisconsin. In total, Alliant Energy plans to construct nearly 1,100 MW of solar energy by the end of 2023. Learn more about this plan at **alliantenergy.com/poweringwhatsnext**.

> **Inside:** Updates from the project site.



## **CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Crews at the Wood County Solar Project continue to install tracking systems and solar panels. The tracking systems will enable panels to rotate with the sun daily. They are 65% complete.

Meanwhile, we've installed over 20% of the solar panels. We have nearly 200 workers on-site each day, who are installing roughly 10,000 panels each week. There will be around 388,000 panels up completion. The solar panels are bifacial, meaning they produce solar energy from both the front and the back of the panel, which allows for power production from sunlight reflected off snow in the winter as well as any other diffuse reflection.

There will be 41 inverters on-site. Inverters convert direct current electricity from the panels to alternating current, which then travels to the project substation. We will space inverters throughout the project with each one fed by approximately 9,000 solar panels. Power output tracking from the array happens at the inverters. Operations and maintenance staff will monitor them once the project is operational.



One of 41 inverters that will be on-site



Progress is being made on the project substation

The on-site project substation is 75% complete. The transformer for the project substation, which steps up the output voltage, has been delivered and will be installed shortly.

Also currently under construction is the transmission line connecting the on-site project substation to the new 7-Mile Creek ATC substation on Mill Road (near Highway 73). The approximately three-mile transmission line is 90% complete as of early April. The 7-Mile Creek ATC substation is 70% complete.

#### **PROJECT SITE WORKERS RECEIVE BLUE HEART SAFETY AWARD**

Seven Wood County Solar Project employees were honored with the Blue Heart Safety Award on March 17 after their quick thinking and CPR helped save the life of an operator who experienced a heart attack on the job.

The seven employees, Tim Jones, Mike Botwinski, Chris Fredette, Darius Young, Nancy Zimmerman, Tim Leis and Josh Lewis also received the American Heart Association's Heartsaver Hero award, recognition from the Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department and a special designation from Alliant Energy.

The operator experienced chest pains and was escorted to the safety trailer. There, employees administered CPR and used the site's automated external defibrillator. Local EMS arrived on the scene and stabilized the operator. Following surgery, he has since recovered and returned to work at the Wood County Solar Project in early March, just over two months after the emergency.



Honoring Project employees who helped save a life.

### ALLIANT ENERGY EARNS REGIONAL IMPACT AWARD

In early March, Alliant Energy accepted a Regional Impact Award at the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce's 74th Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet. The award recognizes a Wisconsin Rapids area business that shows significant regional growth and expansion of their business, demonstrates community service and leadership and uses innovative efforts to adapt to marketplace change. We at Alliant Energy are honored to receive this award as it reflects our company's dedication to our purpose-driven strategy to serve customers and build stronger communities.

Our Wood County Solar Project has created more than 200 construction jobs and will soon generate clean energy. Once operational, the project will provide an estimated \$600,000 of annual shared revenue to the Town of Saratoga and Wood County.

Alliant Energy Foundation's efforts in the community demonstrate commitment to building stronger communities by serving our customers. In 2021, our Foundation awarded more than \$41,000 in sponsorships and grants to Wood County nonprofit organizations.

- Our Foundation donated a \$25,000 impact grant to FOCUS (Feeding Our Community with United Service) to support three local hunger relief organizations.
- We gave \$10,000 to Feeding American Eastern Wisconsin for a mobile pantry that serves more than 700 households.
- This past fall, Alliant Energy volunteers helped package and distribute food to local families in need as well as collect personal donations for 20 comfort bags for Wood County Social Services.

We are proud to serve Central Wisconsin communities and will continue to help where it is needed as we build a cleaner and more reliable future.

### **DIVERSIFYING THE GRID**

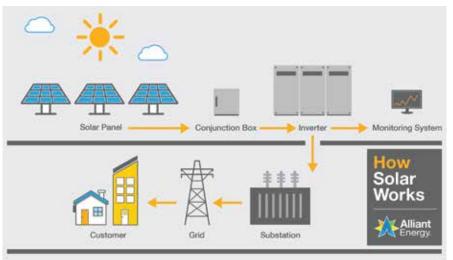
With the demand for resilient, reliable energy ever increasing, the role renewable sources play in the electric grid is more important than ever.

According to the International Energy Agency World Energy Outlook for 2021, energy needs worldwide will increase 30 percent by 2040. This may stress parts of the grid network that are more than a century old.

By adding renewable energy like wind and solar, we diversify the grid to increase reliability, flexibility and resilience. With diverse generating sources, some parts of the grid can always produce energy when another part doesn't. Learn more about these efforts at *alliantenergy.com/griddiversification*.

hoto Credit: Heike O'Day Photograp

Mary Eiler Radl and Amy Cralam receiving the Regional Impact Award on behalf of Alliant Energy





### Wood County Solar Project

PO Box 463 Plover, WI 54467

## WOOD COUNTY SOLAR PROJECT MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER

#### **Find Out What's Next**

We'll share additional updates, photos and details for the Wood County Solar Project throughout the construction process online at **alliantenergy.com/woodcountysolar.** 

#### **Learn More**

Alliant Energy is leading the transition to a clean energy future.

Learn more at: alliantenergy.com/poweringwhatsnext

#### Sign up for Email

Sign up to receive updates via email. You'll get faster updates, and it's better for the environment (no printing or delivery means you save paper and reduce carbon emissions). Contact **info@woodcountysolar.com** to request newsletter e-delivery.

#### **Contact Information**

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