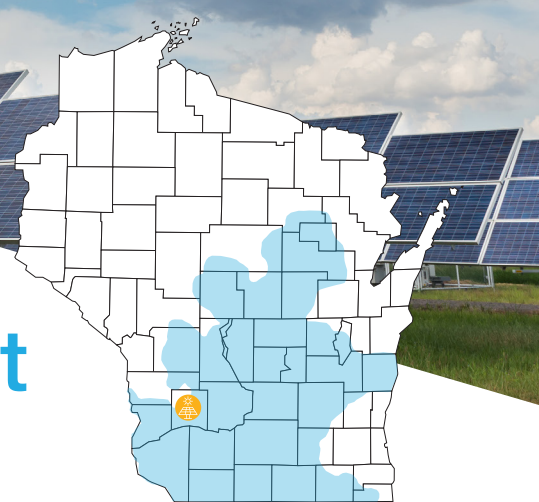


Bear Creek Solar Project

May 2022 Update



The 50-megawatt (MW) Bear Creek Solar Project located in Richland County, Wisconsin, is part of Alliant Energy's Clean Energy Blueprint, a strategic roadmap to cost-effectively accelerate renewable energy and reduce carbon emissions. Once complete, the project will positively impact the environment and generate enough energy to power nearly 13,000 homes.

Construction update

Our Bear Creek Solar Project crews continue to install the tracker system. The system allows panels to track the sun as it moves across the sky, from a 52-degree angle to the east in the morning to a 52-degree angle to the west in the afternoon. Crews are also in the process of installing solar panels, with nearly 75% of the 122,595 panels installed as of mid-April.

The direct current cable installation, which takes the energy from the solar panels to the inverter boxes, is over 80% complete. There will be 14 inverters spaced throughout the project, each one fed by approximately



9,000 solar panels. Inverters convert direct current electricity from the panels to alternating current, which then travels to the project substation.

The operations and maintenance staff responsible for the project after completion will be able to monitor energy output at the inverters to find any irregularities.

With the installation of the transformer, which steps up the output voltage, the project substation is now 75% complete.

We expect the Bear Creek Solar Project to be operational by the end of the year.



Solar panel efficiency

The tracking system and the bifacial panels make the Bear Creek Solar Project extremely efficient. Bifacial panels absorb light on both their fronts and backs, which allows them to produce power from sunlight reflected off snow in the winter as well as any other diffuse reflection.

The tracking system, in addition to following the sun for improved production, is also useful during the winter as it can tilt the panels to let snow fall to the ground. For more information about solar panels working in the winter, visit alliantenergy.com and search “Solar Energy Video Series.”

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 will likely stress parts of the grid that are over 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 part of the grid can always produce energy when another part doesn't. Learn more about these efforts at alliantenergy.com/griddiversification.

Find out what's next

We'll share additional updates, photos and details for the Bear Creek Solar Project throughout the construction process. Find them online at alliantenergy.com/bearcreeksolar.

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