Alliant Energy's

Bear Creek Solar Project

Fall 2023 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 our transition to renewable energy and reduce carbon emissions. Now complete, the project has generated enough energy in the first eight months of 2023 to fully power approximately 90% of the households in Richland County for an entire year.

A message from our Operations team

At Alliant Energy, we constantly look for ways to modernize the grid and continue delivering the reliable service our customers expect. This includes solar projects like Bear Creek, as well as upgrades to existing infrastructure and undergrounding local distribution lines.

This year, our Spring Green Operations team has installed six miles of underground distribution lines. More than 95% of all new electric installations are underground as we continue to invest in reliability initiatives. We're currently finishing three projects in the Spring Green and Arena areas to upgrade our distribution system equipment.

These projects will improve the reliability of service in the community and ensure power is there for you at the flip of a switch. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you!

- Nate Sievers, Manager - Customer Operations



Wisconsin solar project progress

The Bear Creek Solar Project was the first of 12 projects in our Wisconsin solar program to become operational. Late last year, we also placed our Wood County (150 MW) and North Rock (50 MW) projects into service - making Alliant Energy the largest owner and operator of solar energy in Wisconsin.

This year, we've continued construction activities at our remaining nine sites. We have a few major milestones coming up, including the expected completion of our Crawfish River (75 MW), Springfield (100 MW), Onion River (150 MW), Wautoma (99 MW) and Beaver Dam (50 MW) projects.

In total, we expect to place 1,089 MW of solar energy into service by summer 2024. Follow along with this progress at alliantenergy.com/wisconsinsolar.



Increasing reliability through microgrid

Residents in the village of Boaz, about 20 miles northwest of the Bear Creek Solar Project, will see enhanced energy reliability thanks to our newly operational community-based microgrid system.

We began construction in the spring of 2022 and completed the project this summer. The microgrid will create a small-scale utility grid with islanding capability, meaning it can disconnect from the central power grid to operate independently. In the event of an outage or service disruption on the central grid, a dedicated power source will allow us to continue to supply energy to our Boaz customers connected to the microgrid.

"Our team is constantly looking for ways to improve reliability and deploy cutting-edge technical solutions to our customers," said Mike Bremel, director of engineering and customer solutions at Alliant Energy. "This innovative project is one of several research pilot projects we're implementing as we continue to develop our renewable energy portfolio and energy storage solutions."

The Boaz Microgrid is the first of its kind in the entire state. Microgrids can serve customers in a defined area with power from distributed generation sources such as battery, wind, solar or a combination of resources to improve reliability. Projects such as this are just one way we're leveraging new technology to deliver improved customer service and reliability.



Sign up for community solar

Are you interested in reducing your utility bills for the next two decades? The Alliant Energy® Community Solar Program allows customers to buy blocks of a solar garden and receive credits for the energy generated over the 20-year life of the project.

This spring, we announced our Janesville Community Solar Garden and will begin construction in the spring. The project is comprised of 9,000 solar blocks you can purchase for \$337 each. A typical Wisconsin electric customer would need approximately 18 solar blocks to offset 100% of their average annual usage.

We expect the project to be operational in late 2024, at which point our subscribed Wisconsin electric customers can begin to receive credits. We anticipate subscribers will recoup their upfront costs after about nine years. For additional information, visit alliantenergy.com/janesvillecommunitysolar.

Stay informed

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

