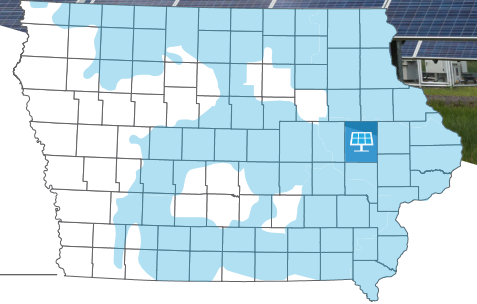




Alliant Energy's

# Duane Arnold Solar Project

## August 2024 update



The 200-megawatt (MW) Duane Arnold Solar Projects 1 and 2 in Linn County, Iowa, are part of our **Clean Energy Blueprint**, a strategic roadmap to cost-effectively accelerate our transition to renewable energy and reduce carbon emissions. Once complete, the projects will positively impact the environment and generate enough energy to power around 40,000 homes annually.

### Construction update

Crews are working hard to complete the first two phases of the Duane Arnold Solar Project this year. This spring, we completed the first 50-MW section of the project and ensured everything is working properly to generate electricity and power homes and businesses in Iowa.

On the remaining 150-MW second phase, crews work to install the piles, tracking system and panels. Piles are the metal posts that anchor the solar arrays to the ground. The tracking system is the equipment that allows the solar panels to track the sun from east to west daily. Panels are the vital components that convert sunlight into electricity.



We've already begun to plant native grasses and pollinator habitat. We plant low-growth grasses between the solar arrays; this reduces the need to mow and provides soil health and groundwater benefits. Pollinator habitat grows on the outskirts of the project area. We plant grasses early to allow them to take root and help stabilize the dirt.

**We expect to complete the first two phases of the Duane Arnold Solar Project by the end of 2024.**

### Solar in the summer

As summer heat rises, so does electricity use. Air conditioners work hard to cool homes and businesses to allow us to live and work comfortably. During the summer, the time of peak demand generally coincides with peak solar energy production. That allows us and other utilities to provide the reliable service customers expect.

All the electricity we generate from the sun has zero fuel costs, and it helps us avoid running our fossil-fuel facilities for longer periods of time. It all adds up to savings we pass on directly to our customers.

Read more at [alliantenergy.com/solarinsummer](https://alliantenergy.com/solarinsummer).



## Can agriculture and solar complement each other?

To help solar generation and agricultural land better complement one another, we invest in agrivoltaics – the study of agriculture co-located with solar energy production. This can take the form of crop production, livestock grazing or pollinator and habitat enhancement. We work with Iowa State University (ISU) and UW-Madison on cutting-edge projects that will advance research in this field.



“As renewable energy grows, it’s important to find opportunities for these projects to benefit people beyond just providing renewable electricity. There’s good work to be done on this front, and we hope this research and demonstration will help identify the potential for communities to benefit from agrivoltaics,” said Anne Kimber, director of ISU’s Electric Power Research Center and a co-principal investigator for the DOE grant.

Our 10-acre project with ISU just south of Ames, Iowa, has tracking and nontracking panels at differing heights. Researchers study their effects on energy, crop and beekeeping production. UW-Madison will conduct similar research on a roughly 15-acre site at its Kegonsa Research Campus.

Learn more about these efforts at [alliantenergy.com/agrivoltaics](https://alliantenergy.com/agrivoltaics).

## Solar myth busting

As information – and misinformation – about renewable energy spreads, it’s always a good idea to consider the source of the information and whether it’s factual. We’re here to help. We’ve already busted some solar myths about topics like how solar panels work, barriers to participation, radiation and noise pollution.

In our latest myth-busting article, we cover the reliability and maintenance needed to keep solar panels efficient. We also discuss the steps we take to ensure sustainable development of solar projects.

Read more about these topics at [alliantenergy.com/solarmyths](https://alliantenergy.com/solarmyths).

## Find out what’s next

We’ll share additional updates, photos and details for the Duane Arnold Solar Project throughout the construction process online at [alliantenergy.com/duanearnoldsolar](https://alliantenergy.com/duanearnoldsolar).

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