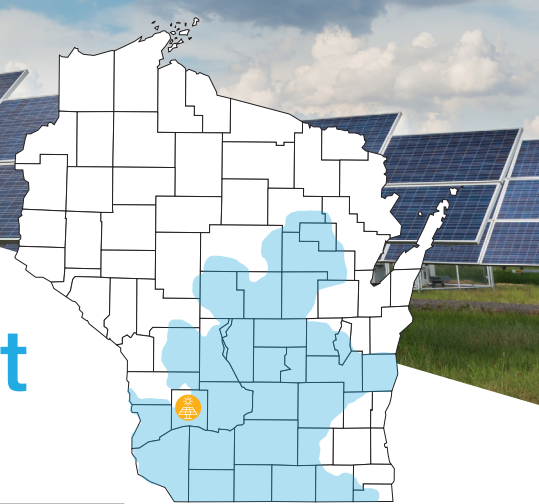


# Bear Creek Solar Project

## August 2022 Update



The 50-megawatt 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. Once complete, the project will positively impact the environment and generate enough energy to power 13,000 homes.

### Construction update

All 122,595 solar panels are now in place on the tracking systems at the Bear Creek Solar Project, which means we've finished most on-site construction! We also completed the electric cable installation in June. This included connecting the cable from each row of solar panels together and then travels to the inverters.

We've begun the testing and commissioning phase of the project. During this stage, we isolate the various aspects of the project to ensure they work as intended. The solar panels will begin generating electricity in groups, and that electricity will flow into the inverters,



the substation and eventually the grid in small batches.

As each section of the project passes the commissioning phase, the Bear Creek Solar Project moves another step closer to operational.

Additionally, with fewer workers on-site each day, we've begun to move the laydown yards and job trailers and plant the areas with native grasses. The exterior fence is fully installed, including the final gates at the various project access points.

We expect the Bear Creek Solar Project to be operational this fall.



## Battery storage at the Bear Creek Solar Project

At Alliant Energy, we are constantly looking for new ways to serve customers and build stronger communities by accelerating our transition to renewable energy. As the electric grid continues to evolve, we are leading the way with new and innovative solutions, all while reducing reliance on fossil fuels and avoiding costly infrastructure upgrades.

Recent advances in battery technology have enabled new projects to deliver greater efficiency, safety and affordability. Just like the batteries found in your cell phone, laptop or TV remote, battery storage systems deliver energy to power our lives when we need it. And when paired with renewable resources like wind and solar, energy storage solutions help diversify our generation portfolio, improve reliability and meet customer needs.

Batteries allow us to capture and store power from the grid at times of the day when demand is low and release it when needed to power homes and businesses. We continue to explore opportunities to develop battery storage alongside renewable energy facilities, like the Bear Creek Solar Project, to optimize the way we deliver electricity to customers.

We see enormous potential for battery storage systems as we continue to accelerate our transition to safe, reliable, cost-effective renewable energy. To learn more about battery storage, visit [www.alliantenergy.com/battery](http://www.alliantenergy.com/battery).

## Increasing reliability through microgrid

Residents in the village of Boaz, about 20 miles northwest of the Bear Creek Solar Project, will soon see enhanced energy reliability as part of a new community-based microgrid system from Alliant Energy.

We began construction this past spring and expect to finish this fall. The project 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.

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

This microgrid project is the first of its kind for us. Microgrids can serve customers in a defined area with power from distributed generation sources such as battery, wind, solar or a combination thereof to improve reliability. Projects such as this are key in order to advance Alliant Energy’s Clean Energy Blueprint and accelerate the transition to cleaner energy, as well as to demonstrate the creativity, ingenuity and reliability of renewable energy solutions.

## Find out what’s next

We’ll share additional updates, photos and details for the Bear Creek Solar Project at [alliantenergy.com/bearcreeksolar](http://alliantenergy.com/bearcreeksolar).

