## **Alliant Energy's**

# Wautoma Solar Project

February 2023 update

The 99-megawatt Wautoma Solar Project located in Waushara 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 around 25,000 homes.

#### **Construction update**

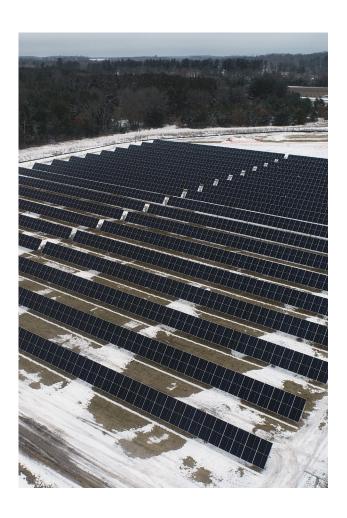
We're nearly complete with both civil sitework and site engineering. Our crews built roads and driveways and prepared the solar array fields for construction. Site engineers designed the array layout and interconnection between the panels and the project substation.

We're roughly 30% finished installing electrical cable. We've finished installing piles, the metal columns that anchor solar array structures to the ground. As we place the piles, we've also begun to install the racking systems that will support the solar panels and allow them to rotate with the sun. In late December, we installed the first solar panels on the site!

We've also constructed fencing around the project site. In addition to its functionality, this fencing will provide a natural-looking aesthetic.

We've also begun work on the utility substation that will connect the solar arrays to the main electric grid. The substation will ensure the clean energy these panels generate is ready and available at the flip of a switch.

We expect the Wautoma Solar Project to be operational by the end of this year.



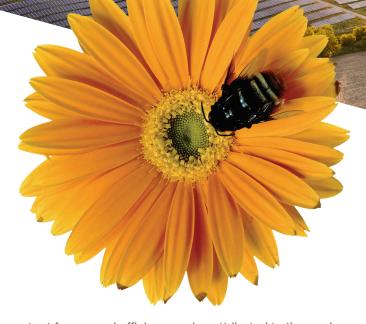


#### Creating a pollinator-friendly habitat

Supporting a diverse, pollinator-friendly habitat that builds soil nutrients and strengthens local wildlife is a key goal of our Clean Energy Blueprint. At this site, like others around the state, we plant native grass and seed mixes throughout and around the solar arrays to create a healthy environment.

The Wautoma Solar Project site is utilizing a specially selected, DNR-approved mix of grass and seed varieties to promote a safe and healthy environment. This native vegetation is great for attracting pollinators such as bees, butterflies, moths and other beneficial wildlife populations.

Pollinator-friendly vegetation has been proven to prevent soil erosion, improve water quality, add benefit to highvalue crops and decrease operating and maintenance costs. Additionally, a recent study by Yale University found that pollinator-friendly habitats can result in "higher energy



output from panel efficiency gains attributed to the cooler microclimate created by perennial plantings."

All these benefits help create a more sustainable, reliable and environmentally friendly energy future. To learn more about Alliant Energy's efforts to support pollinators, visit AlliantEnergy.com and keyword search, "pollinator."



#### Find out what's next

We'll share additional updates, photos and details for the Wautoma Solar Project throughout the construction process online at alliantenergy.com/wautomasolar.

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