

# August 2022 update

The 75-megawatt Crawfish River Solar Project located in Jefferson 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 20,000 homes.

### **Construction update**

We have nearly completed on-site civil work, such as site grading and creating access roads and retaining ponds. With much of the project site prepared, crews continue construction work.

We're currently installing piles, the metal columns that anchor solar array structures to the ground. As we place piles, crews have begun to install the racking systems, which will support the solar panels.

We continue to focus on promoting native plant growth and pollinator habitat. Seeding is underway and vegetation growth throughout the project site is making good progress.



Construction of eight-foot deer fencing around the project site is also underway. In addition to its functionality, this fencing will provide a natural aesthetic look.

We've also begun project work on the utility substation. Once complete, this substation will connect the solar array to the main electric grid and ensure the clean energy these panels generate is ready and available for use by customers at the flip of a switch.

We expect to complete the Crawfish River Solar Project by the end of 2022.





## **Creating a pollinator-friendly habitat**

A key goal of our Clean Energy Blueprint is to support a diverse, pollinator-friendly habitat that builds soil nutrients and strengthens local wildlife. 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.

This site utilizes native grass and seed mixes to prevent soil erosion and improve water quality. The low-growth grass mix reduces the need for mowing and maintenance while the specially selected pollinator plantings attract bees, butterflies, moths and other wildlife populations.

To learn more about Alliant Energy's efforts to support pollinators, visit AlliantEnergy.com and keyword search, "pollinator."

### The solar industry and veteran workforce



The demand for solar energy in the U.S. is growing at a record pace. This means demand for workers in the solar industry is growing as well.

To work in the solar industry, skilled workers must have a knack for technology. Retired military personnel often possess the exact skills needed to support solar energy systems. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, veterans are ideal candidates for the solar industry because:

- Veterans are trained to lead and given responsibility early in their military service.
- · Veterans are mission-focused, doing what it takes to complete the job correctly and on time.
- Veterans are team players, simultaneously completing their work and supporting their colleagues to reach the
  qoal at hand.

To learn more about working at Alliant Energy, go to alliantenergy.com and search, "veteran job match."

### Working with wildlife

As we construct our solar projects, we follow strict processes to ensure we impact wildlife in the area as minimally as possible.

- We follow U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's "avoid, minimize, mitigate" guidance.
- We track federally protected areas near our sites to avoid disturbing areas of high biodiversity value.
- We work closely with state agencies that perform evaluations of the land, such as monitoring animals' migration and nesting patterns.

Learn more about the steps we take and how our perimeter fences are wildlife-friendly at alliantenergy.com/wildlife.

#### Find out what's next

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



