



## Minnesota Power plans two large solar projects in northern Minnesota as part of its EnergyForward strategy for carbon-free energy

September 23, 2024

DULUTH, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sep. 23, 2024-- Minnesota Power, a utility division of ALLETE Inc. (NYSE: ALE), announced today it plans to build two large solar projects in northern Minnesota as part of its continued transition toward a cleaner energy future while prioritizing regional renewable energy investments.

The Regal Solar project near Royalton, Minnesota, and the Boswell Solar project in Cohasset, Minnesota, were chosen in an open process from competitive bids in Minnesota Power's 2023 solar request for proposals. The process included an independent evaluator who monitored it and concurred with the selections as being the most cost-competitive for Minnesota Power customers.

The Boswell Solar project will have a capacity of 85 megawatts from about 180,000 bifacial solar modules on about 600 acres, part of it owned by Minnesota Power. It will utilize existing electric infrastructure at the Boswell Energy Center, requiring only a collector substation and a short transmission line to tie into the grid. The project is expected to be online in mid-2027.

The Regal Solar project will have a capacity of 119.5 megawatts from about 255,000 bifacial solar modules on about 800 acres. The renewable project will tie to the regional electric grid through a new 3.5-mile collector line and substation and is expected to be online in mid-2027.

The two projects are part of Minnesota Power's actions to meet the up-to-300 megawatts of regional solar generation called for in Minnesota Power's Integrated Resource Plan approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) in 2023.

"These two projects exemplify ALLETE's sustainability-in-action strategy by creating local jobs and local renewable energy, and the Boswell Solar project will support one of our existing host communities as we continue to plan for the future," said ALLETE Vice President and Minnesota Power Chief Operating Officer Josh Skelton. "These projects will help move us toward our goal of providing more than 80% renewable energy by 2030 while working toward meeting the state of Minnesota law calling for carbon-free energy supplies by 2040. Both projects include preferences for local labor, diverse suppliers, and apprenticeships to train tomorrow's renewable energy workforce."

Construction of the two projects is contingent on MPUC and other regulatory approvals.

Minnesota Power provides electric service within a 26,000-square-mile area in northeastern Minnesota, supporting comfort, security and quality of life for 150,000 customers, 14 municipalities and some of the largest industrial customers in the United States. More information can be found at [www.mnpower.com](http://www.mnpower.com).

ALLETE, Inc. is an energy company headquartered in Duluth, Minnesota. In addition to its electric utilities, Minnesota Power and Superior Water, Light and Power of Wisconsin, ALLETE owns ALLETE Clean Energy, based in Duluth; BNI Energy in Bismarck, North Dakota.; and New Energy Equity, headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland; and has an 8% equity interest in the American Transmission Co. More information about ALLETE is available at [www.allete.com](http://www.allete.com).

*Minnesota Power calculates and reports carbon emissions based on the GHG Protocol. Details in ALLETE's [Corporate Sustainability Report](#).*

*The statements contained in this release and statements that ALLETE may make orally in connection with this release that are not historical facts, are forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties and investors are directed to the risks discussed in documents filed by ALLETE with the Securities and Exchange Commission. ALE-CORP*

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Source: ALLETE Inc.