

News Release

LARGE-SCALE SOLAR PROJECT IS POWERING HOMES OF WRIGHT-HENNEPIN MEMBERS

Rockford, Minn. (September 8, 2016) — Members of Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association (WH) will now have a portion of their electricity generated by the largest cooperatively-owned solar project in the state of Minnesota.

The Dickinson Solar Project was brought online in August and is expected to generate 2.25 megawatts of solar power that the Rockford-based electric cooperative will purchase from Great River Energy (GRE) – one of WH’s wholesale power providers.

A joint venture between WH and GRE, the array sits on 13 acres of land between Rockford and Buffalo, Minn., and is comprised of 8,360 solar panels. The array is large enough to supply energy to 281 average homes.

“Bringing this array online is another example of WH responding to our members’ desire to bring renewables into the mainstream. It also allows us to diversify our power resource mix,” said Steve Nisbet, WH’s vice president of external relations and power solutions. “This array will not only provide clean, renewable energy, but also vital research and information on operating a large-scale solar project.”

Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association is a member-owned, not-for-profit electric utility that provides power to rural Wright County and western Hennepin County. The cooperative has been a corporate citizen to the area since 1937 and currently serves more than 50,000 electric accounts. It is headquartered in Rockford, Minn.



The Dickinson Solar Project south of Buffalo was energized in August, and is expected to add 2.25 megawatts of renewable energy to Wright-Hennepin's fuel source mix.

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