

INFO

ELK CREEK SOLAR AND ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT



 **300+**
construction jobs

 **MORE THAN
\$1.6 MILLION**
**ANNUAL COMBINED
SHARED REVENUE**
Total project Shared
Revenue for town of Spring
Brook and Dunn County

 **300 MEGAWATTS**
of carbon-free,
renewable energy

 **75 MEGAWATT**
battery storage

 **80,000**
homes powered each year,
on average

 **\$60,000**
Paid to Elk Mound School
District for 20 years once the
project is operational

 Located in town of
Spring Brook, in
Dunn County, Wisconsin

About the project

The Elk Creek Solar and Energy Storage project will bring safe, reliable and emission-free energy to Xcel Energy customers in Wisconsin and the region while providing substantial local revenues in Dunn County. Once operational, the project will combine a 300-megawatt solar generating system with a 75-megawatt battery energy storage system — the first utility scale solar and battery project owned by Xcel Energy in Wisconsin. Adding battery energy storage to the electric grid provides flexibility to offer energy for use at times when solar generation is not otherwise available.

Construction of the project is expected to begin by September 2026. The project is anticipated to be in service by late 2028.

Safe technology with a proven track record

Durable design

- No liquids are inside — the materials are fully sealed.
- Modern designs include advanced safety features.
- Meet strict national and international safety standards.

Recyclable materials

- About 90% of solar panel materials can be recycled.
- Materials like glass, aluminum and certain metals can be recovered.

Location-ready

- Single-axis tracking systems allow the solar modules to track the sun throughout the day, maximizing energy generation.
- Bifacial panels allow sunlight to be captured from both sides. This is especially beneficial in snowy climates where reflected light boosts efficiency.
- Solar panels and energy storage systems are designed to work efficiently where they're installed.

Hail

- Solar panels are tested for hail resistance by the manufacturer and by third-party testing laboratories.
- Installed software has weather monitoring to automatically adjust the angle of the solar panels to the safest position during potential weather events.

Temperature

- Solar and energy storage systems in the Midwest are built to handle the extreme cold and heat.
- Solar panels can withstand temperatures from -40 F to 185 F.
- Energy storage systems are enclosed in engineered containers, which are designed to protect from changing temperatures.

Snow

- Solar and energy storage systems located in snowy climates are designed to withstand snow loads.
- Solar panels are mounted higher off the ground to avoid snow drifts and are equipped with snow sensors that adjust their angle for optimal performance and protection.
- Energy storage systems are protected within their engineered containers.