

**APPENDIX A**  
**SCOPING REPORT AND VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING MATERIALS**

**BADGER STATE SOLAR  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
PUBLIC SCOPING REPORT**

**Prepared By:**  
AECOM  
Greenville, SC

**Prepared For:**  
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development  
United States Department of Agriculture

November 2021



## Table of Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
Introduction .....	1
Project Overview .....	1
Purpose and Need for Agency Action .....	2
Public Scoping Process.....	2
Summary of Public Scoping Feedback.....	3

## Appendices

- Attachment A: Federal Register Notice of Intent
- Attachment B: Newspaper Advertisements
- Attachment C: Virtual Scoping Open House Materials
- Attachment D: Public Scoping Meeting Transcript
- Attachment E: Public and Agency Comments



## **Symbols, Acronyms, and Abbreviations**

EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NOI	Notice of Intent
PV	photovoltaic
RUS	Rural Utilities Service
US	United States
USDA	US Department of Agriculture

# **Badger State Solar Environmental Impact Statement**

## **Public Scoping Report**

### **November 2021**

#### **Introduction**

This report describes the scoping process implemented for the Badger State Solar Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) between October 5 and November 6, 2021. The purpose of the public scoping process is to identify the potential environmental issues associated with the Badger State Solar Project, ensure that all interested and affected parties are aware of the Project, and provide the public with an opportunity to participate in and provide input into the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

#### **Project Overview**

Badger State Solar, LLC (Badger State Solar) proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. At the time of scoping, the proposed Project included approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of United States (US) Highway 18, approximately 2 miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Following completion of scoping, the project site was reduced to approximately 1,200 acres occupying only the Primary Development Area.

Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The PV panels would be mounted on a steel racking frame. Supporting facilities include an electrical substation. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project. The proposed Project site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and US Highway 18.

Ranger Power LLC (Ranger Power) is developing the proposed Project on behalf of Badger State Solar. Ranger Power develops utility-scale solar facilities and seeks solar development opportunities throughout Midwestern states. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to develop a utility-scale solar facility to replace load demand on local utilities resulting from coal-fired power plant closures or scheduled decommissioning.

Many of Wisconsin's fossil-fueled power plants are scheduled to cease power generation over the next several years. Six of the 12 coal-fired power plants in Wisconsin have been retired or are scheduled to go offline, including Dairyland Power's Genoa #3 coal-fired power plant which ceased operations in June 2021. The Proposed Action is needed to offset the loss of generated power from coal-fired power plant

closures. Replacing fossil-fuel-generated power with renewable solar power also would contribute to Dairyland Power's Sustainable Generation Plan goals of reducing carbon dioxide intensity rate and increasing renewable power generation 30 percent by 2030.

### **Purpose and Need for Agency Action**

Badger State Solar has requested Federal financing from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for development of the Project. Supporting renewable energy projects meets both RUS's goal to support infrastructure development in rural communities and USDA's support of the June 2013 Climate Action Plan, which encourages voluntary actions to increase energy independence.

RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act. RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to NEPA review.

### **Public Scoping Process**

As part of the scoping process, the NEPA regulations require Federal agencies to:

- Hold scoping meetings;
- Invite the participation of affected Federal, state, and local agencies, any affected Indian tribe, the proponent of the action, and other interested persons;
- Determine the scope and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS; and
- Identify and eliminate issues that are not significant.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the Badger State Solar EIS and to hold a virtual public scoping meeting was published in the Federal Register on October 5, 2021 initiating the EIS scoping process (see Attachment A). The NOI notified affected Federal, state, and local agencies, Native American Tribes, and other stakeholders to inform them of the Proposed Action and invited them to comment on the Proposed Action and assist in identifying the required permits and approvals that must be obtained and the administrative procedures that must be followed. The NOI also announced a virtual public scoping meeting held on October 26 at 7 pm eastern/6 pm central via Zoom.

In addition to the NOI, a notice was published in the Daily Jefferson County Union and Watertown Daily Times newspapers published on October 6, 7, and 8, 2021 (see Attachment B). The NOI and other project information was available for review on the RUS and Badger State Solar websites (<https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>) and also at the following locations (Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI).

Information available during scoping included the NOI as well as the Alternative Evaluation and Site Selection Studies prepared for the Project. The Project website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai> presented information in a virtual open house format. Information as presented on the virtual open house website is provided in Attachment C.

RUS hosted the virtual public scoping meeting on October 26 at 7 pm eastern/6 pm central via Zoom. Two individuals attended this scoping meeting and had no comments during the meeting. The meeting transcript is provided in Attachment D. RUS also hosted an interagency meeting on October 28 at 10 am eastern/9 am central via Microsoft Teams. Seven individuals from various state and Federal agencies and local governments attended the meeting and participated in the discussion.

### **Summary of Public Scoping Feedback**

Public participation is an integral component of the environmental review process for Federal actions. Public participation is especially important during the scoping phase of the proposed Project. With the NOI and virtual public scoping meeting, RUS sought information, comments, and assistance from Federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. Information received during scoping is used in preparing the Draft EIS.

No comments were received during the public scoping meeting. Comments received during the interagency meeting were focused on transportation topics (pertaining to access points/restrictions and permitting), wetlands and waterways, and the rusty patched bumblebee. The only written submittal received during the scoping period was a request to be a consulting party on the Project from the US Army Corps of Engineers. This request is included in Attachment D.



**Attachment A: Federal Register Notice of Intent**



statutes enforced by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs).

Dated: September 30, 2021.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2021-21683 Filed 10-4-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Proposed New Fee Site

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed new fee site.

**SUMMARY:** The San Juan National Forest (Forest) proposes to charge new fees at the Chimney Rock National Monument. These sites are currently in use by the public, but the Forest Service is not currently charging a fee for their use. Funds from fees would be used for the continued operation and maintenance of these recreation sites. Fees are assessed based on the level of amenities and services provided, cost of operation and maintenance, market assessment, and public comment. Significant capital improvements made in the past few years, coupled with increased visitation, support a fee. A review of visitor use data and fee collection information for existing fee campgrounds and group campgrounds on the Forest demonstrate public need and demand for the variety of recreation opportunities these facilities provide.

**DATES:** If approved, the new fee would be implemented no earlier than six months following the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Pagosa Ranger District, Chimney Rock Fee Change Proposal, P.O. Box 310, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147, or by emailing Paul Blackman at [paul.blackman@usda.gov](mailto:paul.blackman@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul Blackman, District Recreation Staff, 970-264-1505 or [paul.blackman@usda.gov](mailto:paul.blackman@usda.gov). Information about proposed fee changes can also be found on the San Juan National Forest's website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sanjuan>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Federal Recreation Lands Enhancement Act (Title VII, Pub. L. 108-447) directed the Secretary of Agriculture to publish a six-month advance notice in the **Federal Register** whenever new recreation fee areas are established. Fees are based on the level of amenities and services provided, the cost of operations and maintenance, and the market assessment of similar types of

opportunities within the geographic area.

The current fee is \$12-\$16 per adult and \$6-\$8 per child which is charged by the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association. The proposal will establish a new Forest Service fee of \$20 per vehicle for five days and \$10 per motorcycle for five days. Revenue from these fees will help the Forest Service and its partner, Chimney Rock Interpretive Association, to provide services and amenities so visitors can continue to access and enjoy a unique and high-quality monument experience. Revenue would be directed primarily towards infrastructure maintenance and repairs, as well as Forest Service activities such as managing parking, maintaining trails, providing education, protecting cultural resources, and providing other visitor services.

Once public involvement is complete, these new fees will be reviewed and approved by the Rocky Mountain Regional Office prior to a final decision and implementation.

Dated: September 29, 2021.

**Sandra Watts,**

*Acting Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

[FR Doc. 2021-21570 Filed 10-4-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

**[Docket Number: RUS-21-Electric-0020]**

#### Badger State Solar, LLC: Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and hold a virtual public scoping meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

**DATES:** The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7 p.m. EST via Zoom. Those wishing to attend the webinar are invited to register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. An email will be sent to registrants with information for how to access the webinar. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. The virtual scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Attendees will be able to submit written comments through the virtual scoping meeting room website. Written comments may also be submitted to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

Written requests to participate as a "consulting party" or to provide comments for consideration during the scoping process for the proposed Project must be received on or before November 4, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** To request "consulting party" status, submit comments, or for further information, please contact: [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>. This includes the Alternative Evaluation and Site Selection Studies prepared for the project. Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

*Due to the COVID 19 pandemic,* electronic communication is preferred because delivery of hard copies by mail may not be delivered in a timely manner.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** RUS is the lead federal agency, as defined at 40 CFR 1508.1(o), for preparation of the EIS. With this notice, federal and state agencies and federally recognized Tribes with jurisdiction or special expertise are invited to be cooperating agencies. Such agencies or tribes may make a request to RUS to be a cooperating agency by contacting the RUS contact provided in this notice. Designated cooperating



agencies have certain responsibilities to support the NEPA and scoping process, as specified at 40 CFR 1501.8.

In addition, with this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

Throughout the scoping period a virtual public scoping meeting room will be available online at <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Interested parties will also be able to register to attend the October 26 webinar on Zoom through the virtual scoping meeting room website.

Public participation is an integral component of the environmental review process for federal actions. Public participation will be especially important during the scoping phase of the proposed Project. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments submitted during the scoping process should be in writing. The comments should describe as clearly and completely as possible any issues, concerns, or input commenters may have so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C. 470(f), and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.3(f)(3), RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status.

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway

89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland.

Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 127,752 single-axis tracking PV panels in the Primary Project area. The PV panels would be mounted on a steel racking frame. Supporting facilities include an electrical substation. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project. The proposed site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S. Highway 18.

Construction equipment would include graders, bulldozers, excavators, forklifts, trailers, plows, trenchers, pile drivers, and directional boring rigs. Vehicles for transporting construction materials and components primarily would be legal load over-the-road flatbed and box trucks. Transport would use existing regional roads, bridges, and intersections. Laydown areas would be established within the Project site. Internal site access roads would be required. The site would be fenced. Overhead collector circuits would not be required.

Badger State has submitted an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC). Consultations have been conducted with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and an endangered resource review (ER) has been submitted to the agency. Consultations with other agencies include the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Badger State has consulted property owners, local town and county officials and staff, state elected representatives, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection, and engaged the general public.

Among the alternatives that RUS will address in the EIS is the No Action alternative, under which the proposal would not be undertaken or if RUS did not fund the proposed Project, and any reasonable alternatives defined as a result of the scoping process. In the EIS, the effects of the proposal will be

compared to the existing conditions in the affected area of the proposal. Public health and safety, environmental impacts, socio-economic, and engineering aspects of the proposal will also be considered in the EIS.

As part of its broad environmental review process, RUS must take into account the effect of the proposal on historic properties in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106) and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR part 800). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3), RUS is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to this Notice will inform RUS decision-making during Section 106 review.

From information provided in the studies mentioned above, and using input provided by government agencies, tribes, and the public, RUS will prepare a Draft EIS. The Draft EIS will be filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the **Federal Register**. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes its **Federal Register** notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.

To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the CEQ's regulations at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.

The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision

will be published in the **Federal Register** and local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.

**Christopher A. McLean,**

*Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture.*

[FR Doc. 2021-21579 Filed 10-4-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-15-P**

## COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

### Notice of Public Meeting of the Kentucky Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

**AGENCY:** U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

**ACTION:** Announcement of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the Kentucky Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The Committee will discuss civil rights concerns in the state.

**DATES:** The meeting will take place on Thursday, October 14, 2021, from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Online Registration (Audio/Visual):*  
<https://bit.ly/3AQUdmE>.

*Telephone (Audio Only):* Dial 800–360–9505 USA Toll Free; Access code: 433 716 81.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Barbara Delaviez, DFO, at [bdelaviez@usccr.gov](mailto:bdelaviez@usccr.gov) or (202) 376–8473.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Members of the public can listen to these discussions. Committee meetings are available to the public through the above call-in number. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-

line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Individuals who are deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and conference ID number.

Members of the public are also entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to Liliana Schiller at [lschiller@usccr.gov](mailto:lschiller@usccr.gov). Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Unit at (312) 353–8311.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meeting will be available via [www.facadatabase.gov](http://www.facadatabase.gov) under the Commission on Civil Rights, Kentucky Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, <http://www.usccr.gov>, or may contact the Regional Programs Unit at the above email or street address.

### Agenda

Roll Call  
Introduction of Liliana Schiller  
Post-Report Gate—Discussion about distribution of Report on Bail Reform  
Concept Stage—orientation/reminder of Stage Gate Process  
Next Steps  
Open Comment  
Adjourn

Dated: Monday, September 30, 2021.

**David Mussatt,**

*Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.*

[FR Doc. 2021-21680 Filed 10-4-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Census Bureau

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Boundary and Annexation Survey

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general

public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

**Agency:** U.S. Census Bureau, Commerce.

**Title:** Boundary and Annexation Survey.

**OMB Control Number:** 0607–0151.

**Form Number(s):** BAS–1, BAS–2, BAS–3, BAS–5, BAS–6, BASSC–1L, BASSC–3L, BASSC–4L.

**Type of Request:** Regular submission, Request for a Revision of a Currently Approved Collection.

**Number of Respondents:** 40,000 governments.

**Average Hours per Response:** 7.5 hours. This estimate is based on an average of 5 hours for a no change participant and 10 hours for a participant with changes.

**Burden Hours:** 300,000 hours.

**Needs and Uses:** The Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) provides tribal, state, and local governments an opportunity to review the Census Bureau's legal boundary data to ensure the Census Bureau has the correct boundary, name, and status information. BAS also allows participants to review and provide updates to Census Designated Places (CDPs). BAS fulfills the agency's responsibility as part of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, for which the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A–16 designates the Census Bureau as the lead federal agency for maintaining national data about legal government boundaries, as well as statistical and administrative boundaries. BAS supports the spatial data steward responsibilities of the *OMB E-Gov*, *Data.gov*, the National Map, and Geographic Names Information System.

The Census Bureau uses the boundaries collected in BAS to tabulate data for various censuses and surveys including the decennial census, American Community Survey (ACS), and Population Estimates Program (PEP). It also uses the legal boundaries collected through BAS to support several other programs such as Congressional and State Legislative redistricting, the Economic Census, the Geographic Update Population Certification Program, and the Special Census program.

Numerous federal programs also rely on accurate boundaries collected through BAS. The U.S. Geological

This page intentionally left blank

## **Attachment B: Newspaper Advertisements**





# Koepka, DeChambeau to face off in made-for-TV match in Vegas

Brooks Koepka and Bryson DeChambeau will finally get their match, even if it's just 12 holes.

After butting heads in a dispute driven largely on social media for the better part of two years, Koepka and DeChambeau will face each other in the latest edition of "Capital One's The Match" the day after Thanksgiving at Wynn Golf Course on the Las Vegas Strip.

The Nov. 26 exhibition will be shown on TNT and give everyone plenty of time to relive their back-and-forth that began at Liberty National in August 2019 and appeared to cool when they were teammates on the winning U.S. team at the Ryder Cup.

DeChambeau hinted at "something fun coming up here" during his news conference at the Ryder Cup. Koepka was asked about it two days later at his news conference and said: "I have no idea. I didn't listen to the comment or hear what he said."

Both will have open mics during the 12-hole match.

Koepka and DeChambeau have been paired together only four times on the PGA Tour, most recently in 2019 for the opening two rounds of the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill. The other occasions were the third round of the Tour Championship in 2018 and the final round of the 2016 Masters, when DeChambeau was an amateur.

DeChambeau will be making his second appearance in the made-for-TV bonanza, having partnered with Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers in beating Phil

Mickelson and Tom Brady last summer. Koepka is playing in it for the first time.

DeChambeau was in Las Vegas last week and reached the quarterfinals of the Long Drivers Association Championship, a remarkable feat considering he faced the world's best at swinging as hard and launching as far as they could. He had a number of drives go 400 yards or more.

The exhibition, which began with Mickelson beating Tiger Woods in 2018 at Shadow Creek, has raised nearly \$30 million for various charities and generated some 10 million net donations.

**NEXT UP IN RYDER CUP?**

Sam Burns won for the second time this year on the PGA Tour just 13 days after Ryder Cup captain Steve Stricker broke the news that Burns would not be part of the U.S. team.

Burns can't start earning points for the 2023 team until next year.

And if history is any indication, the U.S. team will feature plenty of newcomers. The Americans steamrolled Europe for the largest margin of victory — 19-9 — since the modern era began in 1979 by expanding Britain and Ireland to include continental Europe.

The U.S. team that won at Hazeltine by a 17-11 margin had only six players make it back to the team that went to France in 2018.

That's not unusual. Dating to 1981, there have been only six Ryder Cups where more than six Americans made it back to the next team.

One question is, who

would be the six not at Whistling Straits? Among those who missed out, besides Burns, were Patrick Reed, Webb Simpson and the slumping Rickie Fowler. Matthew Wolff figured to be on the 2021 team when he tied for fourth and was runner-up in consecutive majors in 2020, but he went into a tailspin with his game and emotions. As for newcomers? Remember, Colin Morikawa was still in college when the previous Ryder Cup was played.

Perhaps the better question is, who won't make it back?

The 1999 and 2012 teams had eight returning players. The two constants were Phil Mickelson, who set a record by playing in 12 successive teams, and Jim Furyk, who played nine in a row.

For now, it's hard to imagine a U.S. team without Justin Thomas and Jordan Spieth, Xander Schauffele and Patrick Cantlay, and Morikawa and Bryson DeChambeau for years to come.

Then again, Spieth would have been left off the team if not for the one-year postponement because of the coronavirus pandemic.

**CADDIE MOVEMENTS**  
Two major champions are starting the new season with different caddies.

Ted Scott had been with two-time Masters champion Bubba Watson his entire career, and they have decided to part ways. Watson said Scott "deserves more credit than anyone can imagine" for helping him on and off the golf course.

Jimmy Johnson is no longer with Justin Thomas, the 2017 PGA Champion

and FedEx Cup champion. No reason was given for their split, except for Thomas saying he did not fire Johnson. Thomas said Jim "Bones" Mackay, the former longtime caddie for Phil Mickelson, will work for him. Johnson said the second full-time caddie Thomas had as a pro.

**MONEY FOR NOTHING**

The steady increase in prize money plays a role in Cameron Tringale extending his lead as the player with the most PGA Tour earnings without winning. His most recent chance was the Sanderson Farms Championship, where Tringale began the final round one shot behind and closed with a 71 to tie for 11th. That was worth \$162,750, pushing his career earnings to \$14,487,568.

That's a little more than \$1 million better than Brian Davis of England, who played his last full season in 2019. The difference is Davis has played 372 events, compared with 311 for Tringale.

Of the nine players with \$10 million or more without winning (who primarily play the PGA Tour), Brett Quigley had the most starts at 408.

Tringale makes his 312th start this week in Las Vegas. He says the joy comes more from competing than the cash.

"I've been out here a long time. I haven't won, but I love competing, and I just want to see if I can keep beating guys," he said

before the final round. "Sunday they give the trophies away, but you're really out there grinding and you're playing against yourself. But it's just fun to see how I can match up when I'm playing well and even when I'm not, just how to manage that and get the most out of each week."

"That's kind of the fun part for me," he said. "I'm kind of a journeyman to this point and I'm enjoying the journey."

**RYDER CUP REUNION**  
Steve Stricker and Padraig Harrington are competing again, this time with golf clubs.

Harrington turned 50 on Aug. 31, three weeks before the Ryder Cup. He makes his PGA Tour Champions debut this week in the Constellation Furyk & Friends Invitational at Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville, Florida. Stricker also is in the field.

As much as the PGA Tour Champions often boasts the number of former major champions in its fields, this feels like a reunion of past Ryder Cup captains. Harrington and Stricker are among 10 former captains at Timuquana.

European captains are Bernhard Langer (2004), Colin Montgomerie (2010), Jose Maria Olazabal (2012), Darren Clarke (2016) and Harrington (2021).

U.S. captains are Tom Lehman (2006), Corey Pavin (2010), Davis Love III (2012 and 2016),

tournament host Jim Furyk (2018) and Stricker (2021).

**DIVOTS**

The Asian Tour is set to resume in November, having not played since March 2020 because of the pandemic. The tour has two tournaments scheduled for Thailand and plans two more in Singapore after the Christmas break. ... With seven tournaments left in the year, Dustin Johnson and Scottie Scheffler are the only U.S. Ryder Cup members who have yet to qualify for the Sentry Tournament of Champions at Kapalua. ... Patrick Reed returns to competition this week at the Shihens Children's Open in Las Vegas, his first event since he was not picked for the Ryder Cup team. ... The European Tour again will finish its season with back-to-back tournaments in Dubai. The AVIV Dubai Championship on Nov. 11-14 precedes the DP World Tour Championship that concludes the Race to Dubai. A year ago, the second Dubai tournament was part of the tour's plan to stay in areas for two events as part of its strict bubble. This year's Dubai Championship takes the spot on the schedule vacated by the Nedbank Golf Challenge in South Africa.

**STAT OF THE WEEK**  
Tiger Woods won his first PGA Tour title 25 years ago in Las Vegas and earned \$297,000. This week in Las Vegas, fifth place pays \$39K7,000.

## Public Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Rural Development

**Badger State Solar, LLC:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021.

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

**DATES:** The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7pm EST via Zoom. Comments for consideration during the scoping process must be received on or before November 6th, 2021.

**Registrations:** to attend the webinar, register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. Written comments can be submitted through the virtual scoping meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov)

Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at:

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>,

<https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C.470f, and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments should be submitted using the information provided so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

• RUS will prepare a Draft EIS which will then be filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The Draft EIS will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the Federal Register. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Federal Register notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.

• To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.

• The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

• Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.

**LeafGuard**  
Get it. And forget it.<sup>®</sup>

is the permanent, clog-free gutter solution!<sup>™</sup>

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

LIFETIME NO CLOG WARRANTY  
MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME  
THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM  
SCRATCHGUARD<sup>®</sup> PAINT FINISH

**LeafGuard**  
Get it. And forget it.  
920-541-2340

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!

**\$99** PLUS A \$25 AMAZON GIFT CARD  
INSTALLATION<sup>\*</sup>

RECEIVE A \$25 AMAZON GIFT CARD WITH FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE!

\* Does not include cost of material. Expires 10/31/21. All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form provided at presentation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Amazon and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 10/31/21.



# Wisconsin's largest cities targeted in election probe

By SCOTT BAUER  
Associated Press

MADISON — The mayors of Wisconsin's five largest and most Democratic cities started to receive subpoenas this week as part of a Republican-ordered investigation into the 2020 presidential election being led by a retired state Supreme Court justice.

Attorney Michael Gableman, in an interview Tuesday with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, also said he did not understand how elections work after last year claiming without evidence to supporters of Donald Trump that the election had been stolen.

Gableman issued his first round of subpoenas last week to the Wisconsin Elections Commission and officials in the cities of Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay, Racine and Kenosha. He issued subpoenas

to the mayors in those five cities on Tuesday and Wednesday.

President Joe Biden won all five of those cities on his way to defeating Trump in Wisconsin by nearly 21,000 votes, an outcome that survived recounts and court rulings in both state and federal courts.

Democrats have decried the Gableman investigation as a farce and an attempt to undermine public confidence in elections. There is no evidence of widespread fraud in Wisconsin. Only four people out of about 3 million who cast ballots in the election have been charged with fraud.

Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, a Democrat, called the subpoena a "broadly worded request" that was under review by the city attorney's office.

The subpoenas Gableman has issued so far, which are signed by Vos, seek a wide array of election information, including "all documents contained in your files and/or in your custody, possession, or

control pertaining to the Election." That could amount of thousands of pages of documents, or more.

Gableman told the Journal Sentinel if the officials want to narrow down his request "I'm certainly open to doing what is efficient."

Gableman spoke to the Green Bay City Council about the investigation on Tuesday night. In an interview with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, he also admitted to not understanding how elections work.

"Most people, myself included, do not have a comprehensive understanding or even an understanding of how elections work," Gableman told the Journal Sentinel.

Gableman said his report would compare how the 2020 election was supposed to work versus how it did.

"Section one: What should have occurred during the election? How do these things work? Most people don't

know about that," he told the newspaper. "Election laws are unlike, say, laws about don't kill me — they're not intuitive. No one can call elections laws common sense. Once you understand them, it may be common sense but it's not intuitive. And so most people, myself included, do not have a comprehensive understanding or even an understanding of how elections work."

Gableman did not immediately return a message from The Associated Press seeking comment Wednesday.

Gableman also said in Green Bay on Tuesday night that he does not know if he can complete his investigation by the end of October, as Republican Assembly Speaker Robin Vos said he expected it to be done. Gableman, who was hired by Vos and is being paid \$11,000 a month in taxpayer money, did not say how long he thought his work would take. The total budget for the probe is \$675,000.

# California oil spill renews calls to ban offshore drilling

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California has been a leader in restricting offshore oil drilling since the infamous 1969 Santa Barbara spill that sparked the modern environmental movement, and the latest spill off Huntington Beach is prompting fresh calls for an end to such drilling.

That's easier said than done, even in California. While the state hasn't issued

a new lease in state water in five decades, drilling from existing platforms continues. Similarly, an effort in Congress that aims to halt new drilling in federal waters — more than 3 miles (4.8 kilometers) off the coast — wouldn't stop drilling that's already happening.

Speaking from Huntington Beach on Tuesday, California Gov. Gavin Newsom

acknowledged it's easier to resist new drilling than to wind down what already exists.

"Banning new drilling is not complicated," he said. "The deeper question is how do you transition and still protect the workforce?"

Today, there are 19 oil and gas agreements in California's coastal waters and

1,200 active wells. In federal waters, there are 23 oil and gas production facilities off the state's coast.

A pipeline connected to one of those platforms in federal waters, run by Houston-based Amplify Energy, has spilled up to 126,000 gallons (372,807 liters) of heavy crude in one of the worst oil spills in recent California history.

## FORT ATKINSON POLICE LOG

Friday, Oct. 1

Officers checked on a suspicious vehicle in the 1600 block of Endl Boulevard but everything appeared to be fine, and an elderly woman who appeared to be walking with a suitcase in the 1200 block of West Cramer Street who was on her way to the grocery store; determined that a vehicle thought to be heading to Fort

Atkinson by the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office took a different direction as it never showed up, and that a complaint of suspicious activity was unfounded when it was learned that the homeowner was doing something; will follow up on a complaint of a disorderly driver at a loading dock in the 200 block of East Cramer Street; documented information from a telephone call for a resident and a restraining order for another; were unable to locate a small brown dog reportedly running at large in

the 800 block of Dempster Street.

Officers also contacted the Humane Society of Jefferson County for another dog reportedly running at large then canceled the request when the owner showed up to claim the dog; left a message for the residents in the first block of Shirley Street who left a microwave on the curb that needed to be picked up during bulk pickup week; assisted Luther Elementary School staff with a student attempting to leave the school, and a driver remove a disabled vehicle from traffic in the 1200 block of Madison Avenue; spoke with a resident in the 300 block of Merchants Avenue about a civil matter; mediated a dispute between roommates in the 500 block of West Blackhawk Drive; advised the Fort Atkinson Water Department of a leak from a hydrant in the 1400 block of Endl Boulevard; moved along a 46-year-Jefferson man from a bar in the first block of South Main Street after warning him for disorderly conduct; and handled one confidential incident related to an undisclosed situation.

7:35 a.m.: A 45-year-old Beloit man was cited at the intersection of South Fourth Street West and Grove Street for speeding.

8:45 a.m.: A 15-day correction notice was issued to a driver at the intersection of South Main Street and Margaret Avenue for illegible license plates and failing

to provide proof of insurance, and warned the driver for speeding.

11:40 a.m.: Ryan Brothers Ambulance Service transported a resident from the 1100 block of Erick Street to Fort Memorial Hospital.

11:44 a.m.: No citations were issued for a state-reportable accident with no injuries when a driver struck a motorcycle in the 1500 block of Madison Avenue. A 60-year-old Green Cove Springs, Fla., man and a 71-year-old Fort Atkinson woman were involved.

12:48 p.m.: Ryan Brothers Ambulance Service transported a resident from the 400 block of East Sherman Avenue to Fort Memorial Hospital.

1:19 p.m.: Ryan Brothers Ambulance Service transported a resident from the 700 block of Florence Street to Fort Memorial Hospital.

4:24 p.m.: Ryan Brothers Ambulance Service transported a resident from the 400 block of Wilcox Street to Fort Memorial Hospital.

10:20 p.m.: A 42-year-old Nashotah woman was arrested in the first block of South Water Street East for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, first offense, probable alcohol content and unsafe backing when she backed her vehicle into a parked vehicle, resulting in a state-reportable accident.

## Public Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Rural Development  
Badger State Solar, LLC Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021.

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA  
ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

DATES: The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7pm EST via Zoom. Comments for consideration during the scoping process must be received on or before November 6th, 2021.

REGISTRATION: To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolarconsultation.at>. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. Written comments can be submitted through the virtual scoping meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov). Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at:

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>,  
<https://badgerstatesolarconsultation.at>, or <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.  
Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2 miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C.470(f), and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments should be submitted using the information provided so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

\* RUS will prepare a Draft EIS which will then be filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The Draft EIS will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the Federal Register. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes its Federal Register notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.

\* To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.

\* The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

\* Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.



# COLUMBUS DAY DEADLINES

October 11th is a Postal Holiday and therefore is a non-publishing date for the Daily Jefferson County Union & Watertown Daily Times

Advertising for the October 12th edition deadlines FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8 AT 4PM.  
All ads must be approved by 4pm Monday, October 7th.

October 12th Hometown Advertiser and Hometown Shopper  
Advertising deadline for this edition is WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH, 9AM.  
All ads must be approved by 2pm Wednesday, October 6th.



# Ortega nets 4 goals as L-Cats shut out Phoenix

Jailen Ortega scored four goals and Isaac Lambert added one as Lake Mills shut out Luther Prep 5-0 in a Capitol Conference boys soccer match on Thursday at LPS.

Luther Prep (6-8, 3-5 in conference) came out quickly with two very dangerous shots on frame within the first two minutes, but the L-Cats (13-2-1, 5-2 in conference) thwarted both with two tremendous goalie saves.

They then turned around the game as Ortega was fouled inside of the box. He promptly scored from the penalty mark in the fourth minute. Luther Prep still had momentum after being down a goal as they continued to provide dangerous opportunities.

But the L-Cats again found goal as they broke away and slid one past the diving keeper — an odd goal by Ortega as the ball hit the post and then the back of Luther Prep goalkeeper Aleksei Soloviyov and into the goal.

Still, Luther Prep again took shots, but

Lake Mills continued to deflect them. After a costly turnover in the midfield, though, Lambert lofted a shot from 45 yards out which landed just over the fingertips of the Phoenix goalkeeper.

It was a really clever shot, and the L-Cats had three goals in just three shots. It was then that the L-Cats took over the game with Luther Prep providing no real nice chances on goal.

The L-Cats added two more in the second half — both scored by Ortega — one a PK and one an uncontested header from 12 yards out on a corner kick. At the final whistle, the visitors left the rainy pitch 5-0 victors.

Lake Mills hosts Lakeside Lutheran on Tuesday at 6:45 p.m.

**LAKE MILLS 5, LUTHER PREP 0**  
Lake Mills 3-2 - 5  
Luther Prep 0-0 - 0  
LM - Ortega 3:37  
LM - Ortega 16:27  
LM - Lambert 18:24  
LM - Ortega 58:22 - PK  
LM - Ortega 82:25  
Shots - LM 21, LPS



Kevin Wilson Lake Mills senior forward/midfielder Jailen Ortega gets off a shot on goal after beating Luther Prep defender Jeremiah Bain during a Capitol Conference boys soccer match on Thursday afternoon at LPS. Ortega scored four goals for the L-Cats in a 5-0 victory.

## NFL GLANCE

Table with NFL standings for American and National Conferences, including columns for team, W, L, T, Pct, PP, PF, PA.

# Struggling UW looks to bounce back against Illinois

By Terry Towry  
Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Wisconsin will try to get back on track against Illinois on Saturday after suffering consecutive losses for just the fifth time in seven seasons under coach Paul Chryst.

The Badgers (1-3, 0-2 Big Ten) are off to their worst start since 1990 and are 5-8 over their last 13 games and 9-10 over their last 19 games.

Standing in the Badgers' way is former coach Bretielema and an Illinois squad that has also stumbled this season. Bielema, in his first year at Illinois (2-4, 1-2), understands the pressure and interest surrounding playing his old team. Chryst was an offensive coordinator on Bielema's Wisconsin staffs from 2006-11.

"Paul and I were together six of my seven

years there," Bielema said. "There are some comparisons but there are also a lot of differences. The basic core value of run-play action is very similar to what we were but there are also a lot of unique, new things that pop out when we watch them on tape."

Chryst said he sees some similarities between what Bielema is doing at Illinois and what he did during his tenure at Wisconsin.

"I think in knowing him and what he values in his team, you're seeing that on film," he said. "Obviously a lot of respect for him, and I think he's put together a really good staff. You do see it."

**QB QUESTIONS**  
Wisconsin quarterback Graham Mertz and tight end Jake Ferguson are expected to play on Saturday. Both suffered chest injuries in the Michigan game and were initially listed as questionable for the Illinois game. Mertz and Ferguson connected on three of Mertz' five touchdown passes in Wisconsin's blowout of Illinois last season.

"He's been able to practice. That part's been good," Chryst said of his QB on Thursday. "Expecting to have everyone

there. Ferg's (Ferguson) been able to practice. That part's all been good."

Illinois appears to be staying with Brandon Peters, despite some poor game decisions and accuracy problems. Backup Art Sitkowski is available should Peters falter.

**ILLINI RUNNING GAME**  
Illinois' ground game is led by Chase Brown and true freshman Josh McCray.

Brown rushed for 257 yards against Charlotte last week and tied his

career high with two rushing touchdowns. His 257 yards were the fourth-most in a game in school history. McCray ran for a career-best 150 yards on 24 carries against Purdue on Sept. 25.

**PAST SUCCESS**  
Wisconsin has won 10 of its last 11 meetings with Illinois. Since 2003, the Badgers have left Memorial Stadium with a win in six of their last eight trips to Champaign.

## EAGLES

Continued from Page B1

this year and won them all. That has to be unheard of. That many tiebreakers in a year is a lot. Usually those are close and she won all 10."

Alexa Medina (No. 4 singles) lost to Edgewood's Hannah Poehling 7-6(3), 7-5 in the championship match after knocking off Altoona's Natalie Beltz 6-3, 6-2 in the semis.

"Medina really played well the first match," Rogers said. "The sets were close against Edgewood too. I liked the way she finished up her year and kept getting better and better. Realized she could move the ball around a little bit to get it in and win some points."

Aeryn Messmann and Bre Mengel (No. 3 doubles) lost to West Salem's Rebekah Knudson and Grace Waldhart 6-4, 7-6(7) in the third-place match after falling to Altoona's Sofia Bach and Katelyn Beltz 6-1, 6-2.

"The West Salem match was close and they gave it a good run there," Rogers said. "Both are just starting tennis. Their ceilings are high and both are good athletes."

"It was a very enjoyable season. Lost a lot of seniors from last year. The ones that came up filled in nicely. We went 12-10 in duals and placed highly at a competitive sectional, which is pretty good."

**CURTIS FALLS IN STRAIGHT SETS**  
Lake Mills junior Chaudis Curtis lost her opening match in the No. 1 singles flight to Danica Silcox of La Crosse Aquinas 6-0, 6-0.

Player of the Week  
Lake Mills junior quarterback Caden Belling threw four touchdown passes in a 28-24 come-from-behind victory at Big Foot in week seven.

Sponsor the Daily Union's Player of the Week by advertising your business for just \$55 per week! Call 920-563-5553 for more information. To include your child in Sports Splash, submit a Photo, Child's Name, Age and a Short Summary about the photo to advertising@dailyunion.com

## Public Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Rural Development  
Badger State Solar, LLC; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021.  
AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA  
ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting  
SUMMARY: The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.  
DATES: The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7pm EST via Zoom. Comments for consideration during the scoping process must be received on or before November 6th, 2021.  
Registrations: To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.at. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. Written comments can be submitted through the virtual scoping meeting room website or to BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov. Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at: https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements, https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.at, and https://www.badgerstatesolar.com. Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C.470(f), and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments should be submitted using the information provided so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.  
• RUS will prepare a Draft EIS which will then be filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The Draft EIS will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the Federal Register. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes its Federal Register notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.  
• To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.  
• The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.  
• Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.





Kevin Wilson

Luther Prep senior Ella Tomhave had eight digs for the Phoenix in a 3-0 win over Lodi on Tuesday at LPS.

# Phoenix sweep Blue Devils

Anna Kieselhorst had 14 digs and served four aces for Luther Prep's volleyball team in a 25-17, 25-15, 25-18 Capitol North win over Lodi on Tuesday at LPS.

Sum Fisch finished with nine kills and four blocks for the Phoenix (17-10, 5-3 in conference). Emma Bortulin added six kills. Molly Fitzsimmons had 10 assists and eight digs. Andrea Bortulin added six assists. Ella Tomhave had eight digs.

"After our loss to Columbus last night, this was a great way to bounce back," Luther Prep volleyball coach Erin Notting said. "It was a total team effort and it was fun to see everyone contribute to our win! It is homecoming week and it is Parent's Night so there was a lot of energy here tonight. We are looking forward to our last tournament at Shoreland Lutheran on Saturday to fine-tune some things heading into our tough week next week (at Lake Mills and Lakeside)."

The JV won 25-9, 25-18,

25-6. The freshmen also won 3-0.

## Phoenix fall to Columbus in five

COLUMBUS — Luther Prep's volleyball team lost to Columbus 22-25, 22-25, 25-16, 25-20, 8-15 on Monday.

Emma Bortulin had 18 kills and Sam Fisch added 11 kills and 3.5 blocks for Luther Prep (16-10, 4-3 on conference). Molly Fitzsimmons led in assists with 20 and added 24 digs. Andrea Bortulin put up 14 assists. Anna Kieselhorst led the back row with 29 digs. Ella Tomhave added 25 digs.

"Tonight we again could not control our own errors," Luther Prep volleyball coach Erin Notting said.

"We had some really great moments but unfortunately we could not put together enough offense when we needed to. Columbus was scrappy and did a great job of playing



Kevin Wilson

Luther Prep junior Naomi Pechman dives for a serve that clipped the net during a Capitol North volleyball match against Lodi on Tuesday at LPS. Luther Prep won 3-0.

The Phoenix JV won 24-26, 25-17, 25-18. Luther Prep's freshmen also won 25-4, 25-5, 25-10,

consistent all night.

# Chiefs hit game-winner in 76th minute of victory vs L-Cats

LAKE MILLS — Isaac Sandoval hit the game-winner in the 76th minute as Wisconsin Dells topped the host Lake Mills boys soccer team 3-1 in a Capitol Conference game on Tuesday.

The Chiefs' Jacob Rogers opened the scoring with an unassisted goal in the eighth minute. L-Cat senior Brayden Ciesiolka equalized in the 61st minute unassisted. Sandoval made it 2-1 at the 75:26 mark unassisted, adding a goal two minutes later for the final margin.

Lake Mills is now 12-2-1 overall and 4-2-0 in the league while Wisconsin Dells is 10-1-0 overall and 6-1-0 in league games, currently sitting in second place a game in the loss column behind Sugar River.

"This loss hurt," Lake Mills boys soccer coach Joshua Vinluan said. "The boys wanted this one real bad and we were straight unlucky. It was a very evenly matched game for 70 minutes. We are hoping



Nate Gilbert

Lake Mills junior Miguel Ortega clears the ball during the first half of a Capitol Conference home game against Wisconsin Dells on Tuesday. The L-Cats lost 3-1.

to see them again in the big tourney."

Freshman Cale Bower and sophomore Curtis Galstad combined to make eight saves for the L-Cats, who travel to play Luther Prep on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

## WISCONSIN DELLS 3, LAKE MILLS 1

W. Dells 1 2 - 3  
Lake Mills 0 1 - 1  
First half: WD - Rogers, 7:07.  
Second half: LM - Ciesiolka, 60:48; WD - Sandoval, 75:26; WD - Sandoval, 77:48.  
Shots on goal: WD 16, LM 11.  
Saves: WD (Vargas) 7, LM (Bower, Galstad) 8.

# Lake Country Lutheran edges Lakeside

HARTLAND — Lake Country Lutheran scored twice before halftime in a 2-1 victory over the visiting Lakeside Lutheran boys soccer team in a non-conference game on Monday.

LCL's Alex Johnson opened the scoring in the 22nd minute on an assist by Ben Schumacher, who made it 2-0 later in the period.

Lakeside senior Kyle Main scored off an assist by Easton Wolfram in the

46th minute for the final margin.

Senior goalie Calvin Geerdts stopped five shots for the Warriors, who were outshot 7-3. Lightning keeper Adam Zuhike made two saves.

## Public Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Rural Development  
**Badger State Solar, LLC:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021.

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA  
**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

**DATES:** The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7pm EST via Zoom. Comments for consideration during the scoping process must be received on or before November 6th, 2021.

**Registrations:** to attend the webinar, register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. Written comments can be submitted through the virtual scoping meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov). Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at:

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>. Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C.470(f), and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments should be submitted using the information provided so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

• RUS will prepare a Draft EIS which will then be filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The Draft EIS will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the Federal Register. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Federal Register notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.

• To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.

• The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

• Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.

**LeafGuard**  
Get it. And forget it.®

is the permanent, clog-free gutter solution!\*

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

LIFETIME NO CLOG WARRANTY  
MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME  
THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM  
SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

**LeafGuard**  
Get it. And forget it.  
920-545-4240

Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!

**\$99** PLUS A \$25 AMAZON GIFT CARD  
INSTALLATION\*

RECEIVE A \$25 AMAZON GIFT CARD WITH FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE!

\*\* Does not include cost of material. Expires 10/31/21. †All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form provided at presentation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Amazon and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 10/31/21.



**OBITUARIES**

**Edith J. (Brown) Kottwitz**  
July 11, 1934 - October 5, 2021

**Lake Mills, WI** - Edith J. (Brown) Kottwitz, 87, Lake Mills, died on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at Brook Gardens Place surrounded by her family.



She was born on July 11, 1934 in Turtle, Wisconsin, the daughter of the late F. Russell and Ione (Sherman) Brown. She graduated from the Jefferson High School on June 5, 1952 and the next day Edith married the love of her life, Maurice Kottwitz on June 6, 1952 at the Immanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church in Jefferson.

She later earned her food service training from Watertown Technical School in 1970. Prior to retirement she had been employed by the Lake Mills School District and Hamlin/Planar. She was a member of the Lake Mills Moravian Church.

Edith enjoyed polka and square dancing with her husband, camping, listening to country western music, watching old westerns, cooking, reading, and was an avid walker.

Survivors include her husband of 68 years, Maurice; three sons, Rick (Connie), Randy (Jamie), DuWayne (Debbie); one daughter, Cindy Kay (Scott) Bartelt; four grandchildren, Matthew, Daniel, Noah, and Chloe Kottwitz; other relatives and friends.

Also preceded in death by her siblings, Calvin Brown, Myrtle Freeman, Virginia Hopkins, and her sister in infancy, Nellie Brown.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, October 8, 2021 at the Lake Mills Moravian Church.

Friends may call after 10 a.m. on Friday at the church until the time of service.

Burial will be in Rock Lake Cemetery.

If desired, memorials would be appreciated to the Lake Mills Moravian Church or the Jefferson County Humane Society. [www.claussenfuneralhome.com](http://www.claussenfuneralhome.com)

**Ruth Esther (Retzlaff) Hintz**

May 30, 1937 - September 22, 2021

**Neosho, WI** - Ruth E. Hintz (nee Retzlaff) age 84, a resident of Neosho, passed away Wednesday, September 22, 2021, surrounded by her loving family at Cedar Community Home Health & Hospice in West Bend. Ruth was born May 30, 1937 in Cedarburg, Wisconsin to Henry Paul Retzlaff, Sr. and Viola Vertha Martha Retzlaff (nee Riebe).



She was united in marriage to Delwin Arnold Hintz on May 31, 1958, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cedarburg, WI. They lived in the Cedarburg area until 1972 when they moved to their farm on Hwy 60 just outside the Neosho / Hustisford area. Ruth wanted to have two or three sheep on the farm but that turned out to be a hundred or better. She also worked outside the home at the Wagner Products factory for twenty-five years before retiring. Ruth was a very active, social person. She was active in the Ozaukee and Dodge County 4-H programs for many years. Her special talents were sewing and cooking which she shared with the young of those communities. She was an active member of the St. Michael's Lutheran Church of the Hustisford area for almost fifty years. Her caring and community spirit showed through her membership in the quilting club of St. Michael's called the "Gathering Threads." Being an avid quilter and masterful sewer, she would help sew and hem well over one hundred quilts yearly for the Lutheran World Relief program for over 16 years. Ruth was also noted for her amazing baking ability. She had the best apple strudel recipe she made and shared with many at Christmas gatherings. When offered at local fundraising events the strudel sold out in minutes. When helping support grieving families she would make her delicious and masterful Poppy Seed Tarts. Ruth is survived by her son, Daniel Hintz and son-in-law, Paul Beine. Dear grandmother of Adam (Danielle) Endres, Carl Endres, and Michael Endres. Beloved great-grandmother of Violet Endres. Sister-in-law of Joan (the late Henry, Jr.) Retzlaff. She is also survived by many other relatives and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband Delwin Hintz; daughter Susan Endres, her husband Roger; and daughter Sarah Beine. Visitation Saturday, October 9, 2021, from 10:00 AM until time of funeral service 2:00 PM at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, N4911 Gray Road, Iron Ridge (Hustisford), WI 53059 with Pastor Daniel D. Vojta officiating. Memorial contributions in Ruth's memory may be made to St. Michael's Lutheran Church of Iron Ridge (Hustisford) and directed to the quilting club "Gathering Threads." Please share a thought or memory with Ruth's family at [www.shimonfuneralhome.com](http://www.shimonfuneralhome.com)

## COVID-19 Update

	Yesterday		2 days ago	
	Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Cases	Total Deaths
<b>Dodge County</b>	14,074	193	14,034	193
<b>Jefferson County</b>	9,877	121	9,860	121
<b>State of Wisconsin</b>	742,832	8,073	740,559	8,064

## Fully Vaccinated

	Yesterday		2 days ago	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Dodge County</b>	38,868	44.2%	38,826	44.2%
<b>Jefferson County</b>	41,656	49.1%	41,625	49.1%
<b>State of Wisconsin</b>	3,146,992	54%	3,144,303	54%

10-07-2021 Source: Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
Data from previous days subject to change as health officials update records.



**Stormy scene**

**Contributed**  
Dark skies coupled with a bit of sunshine cover State Highway 19 just west of Watertown Monday. Sylvia Wheeler shot this photograph.

**Masks**

Continued from Page A1

to use that number to guide their decisions as to whether they feel their children should wear masks to school.

At the 3 percent level, the mask requirement would go into effect for all staff and students at the affected school and would stay in effect for the next week.

Superintendent Charles Urness noted that the district has already seen an increase in mask usage by choice in the past couple of weeks in response to rising COVID-19 transmission levels in specific schools.

Unlike several recent meetings, Tuesday's special school board meeting did not include time for public comment. The district has already heard from upwards of 50 area residents (not all of them with children in the Jefferson public schools or

residing within the district) at recent meetings. Public comment has been mixed but has tipped heavily against mask mandates of any type.

There were around 20 members of the public in attendance at Tuesday's special board meeting.

Urness said that some of these attendees probably assumed they'd have the opportunity to address the board directly during that meeting.

Urness noted that traditionally in Jefferson, a public comment period is scheduled during the second school board meeting of the month.

Following this pattern, the next school board meeting on Monday, Oct. 11 will not include a public comment period, but the meeting after that, on Oct. 25, will.

However, the option always exists for any parent, community member or concerned citizen to email himself and/or individual school board members. While not shared out

loud, the board will receive that information and will take these comments into consideration, he said.

**Board deliberation**  
Action at Tuesday's board meeting came in a series of three votes, all of them centering on edits to the school district's COVID-19 mitigation measures document.

The first vote dealt with how these requirements were broken down.

Board members voted to break out each elementary school and to look at the numbers in each school separately, as opposed to lumping all of the elementary schools together.

Within the same motion, the board voted to change what constituted "low," "moderate," "substantial" and "high" transmission levels.

The edited documents defines "low transmission" as 0-1 percent of the student body/staff testing positive for COVID-19 over the course of a week. "Moderate" transmission would fall between

1.01 and 2; "substantial" between 2.01 and 2.99; and transmission above 3 percent would be considered "high."

That measure passed by a vote of 5-2, with board members Seth Ebel and Terri Wenkman dissenting.

The second vote extended when contact tracing would be required to be carried out at the schools. The existing plan had called for contact tracing to be employed under "high" transmission.

The change shifted that requirement so it kicks in when transmission reaches the "substantial" level.

The vote on this measure was also 5-2, with board members Tonya Ball and Thomas Condon dissenting.

The final vote was to approve the overarching COVID-19 mitigation document with all of the changes discussed during Tuesday night's school board meeting. This passed on a 7-0 vote.

**Public Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Rural Development  
**Badger State Solar, LLC:** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021.

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA  
**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

**DATES:** The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7pm EST via Zoom. Comments for consideration during the scoping process must be received on or before November 6th, 2021.

**Registration:** to attend the webinar, register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. Written comments can be submitted through the virtual scoping meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov). Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at:

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>. Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 1,750 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2 miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C.470(f), and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments should be submitted using the information provided so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

- RUS will prepare a Draft EIS which will then be filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The Draft EIS will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the Federal Register. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes its Federal Register notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.
- To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.

- The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

- Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.



Jen Pinnow

**Pinnow**

Continued from Page A1

"On behalf of the City of Jefferson, we wish Jen Pinnow the best with her new position," Jefferson City Administrator Tim Freitag said. "We greatly appreciate her efforts to promote the well-being of our business community. She was able to build a very collaborative relationship and partnership with the city during her tenure. Her efforts and talents will be greatly missed."

Pinnow said she has enjoyed her time leading the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce.

"It has been an amazing experience to work for the largest business organization in Jefferson for the past three-plus years. You have no idea how much you all have blessed my life. For that I am forever grateful," she said. "I am extremely proud of what we have accomplished in a short amount of time and I look forward to celebrating our continued success."

**DEATH NOTICES**

**Robert L. Goodson**, 72, Watertown, died October 5, 2021, at home. Hafemeister Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Watertown is serving the family.

**Margaret M. Kurzynski**, 83, Watertown, died October 5, 2021, at AngelsGrace Hospice in Oconomowoc. Hafemeister Funeral Home and Cremation Service of Watertown is serving the family.



Contributed

### Wednesday League champions

Attached are the 2021 Wednesday Night Fall Softball League Champions and Tournament Champions – Lebanon Sport Haus. Pictured in back from left are Clayton Goodman, Nick Roets, Kadan Jablonski, Mike Budewitz, Ryan Theder. Pictured in front from left are Lukas Saeger, Bryce Schuett, Cam Schuett, Rodney Kuehl, and Ryan Kuhl.

## BADGERS

Continued from Page B1

tight end Jake Ferguson are expected to play on Saturday. Both suffered chest injuries in the Michigan game and were initially listed as questionable for the Illinois game. Mertz and Ferguson connected on three of Mertz's five touchdown passes in Wisconsin's blowout of Illinois last season.

"He's been able to practice. That part's been good," Chryst said of his

QB on Thursday. "Expecting to have everyone there. Ferguson's been able to practice. That part's been good."

Illinois appears to be staying with Brandon Peters, despite some poor game decisions and accuracy problems. Backup Art Sitkowski is available should Peters falter.

DEFENSE: Wisconsin ranks third in the nation and leads the Big Ten in total defense, allowing just 249 yards per game. The Badgers also rank seventh in the country allowing just 4.3 yards per play.

"Statistics are great, they're a great thing to reference, but the key ingredient is what worked Saturday (a 24-14 win over Charlotte)," Bielema said. "What we did on Saturday is what our offense is going to be greatly dedicated to this week."

Illinois has held opponents to 20 points or fewer in three straight games for the first time since 2011, when it had a streak of four straight to start the season. The Illini have forced at least one turnover in each game and are averaging 2.5 sacks per game.

## BREWERS

Continued from Page B1

designated for assignment by the Los Angeles Angels, became a key part of Milwaukee's bullpen. Eduardo Escobar arrived just before the trade deadline and is one of the Brewers' top hitters.

The Braves didn't seem to have any major holes in the lineup until its entire opening day outfield fell apart. Promising rookie center fielder Cristian Pacheco struggled and got hurt, left fielder Marcel Ozuna was arrested on assault charges in late May following an altercation with his wife and hasn't returned, and Acuña suffered a season-ending injury in early July.

"We were just treading water all year, kind of playing .500, couple games under .500 all year," Freeman recalled.

Pederson was the first reinforcement, acquired on the Chicago Cubs on July 15. Two weeks later, Anthopoulos added three more outfielders: Duvall, Soler and Eddie Rosario.

Duvall and Soler have been especially productive, with Duvall clubbing 16 homers and Soler adding 14 in 55 games each down the stretch.

That helped Atlanta go 36-19 through July 31.

"We've been mixing and matching all year," Freeman said. "It's been an absolute grind. I think that's what's so special about it this year

is because I felt like we've been grinding all year, trying to figure it out."

STRENGTH VS. STRENGTH

This series features the Braves' potent lineup facing the Brewers' exceptional rotation.

Atlanta has three of the NL's top four RBI producers in Duvall (113), Austin Riley (107) and Ozzie Albies (106). Freeman had an NL-leading 120 runs scored.

Milwaukee struck out an MLB-leading 1,618 batters with a rotation featuring All-Star right-handers Corbin Burnes (11-5, 2-43), Brandon Woodruff (9-10, 2.56) and Freddy Peralta (10-5, 2.81).

GAME 1 STARTERS

Burnes will start Game 1 for the Braves against Braves veteran Charlie Morton (14-6, 3.34).

Burnes gave up five runs over four innings when he last faced the Braves on July 30, though the Brewers still won the game 9-5.

Morton is 7-3 with a 3.38 ERA in 13 career post-season appearances. He pitched 10 2/3 scoreless innings for Tampa Bay in last year's AL Championship Series.

"It's nice to know that I've been in these spots," Morton said. "It's reassuring because the unknown is really what gets you in life."

CONNECTIONS TO AARON

The Braves and Brewers have some notable connections, but this marks the first time they've faced off

in a postseason series.

The Braves played in Milwaukee from 1953-65 — winning a World Series in 1957 and an NL pennant in 1958 — before moving to Atlanta.

Hall of Famer Hank Aaron, who died Jan. 22 at the age of 86, played for the Milwaukee Braves from 1954-65 before joining them in Atlanta and hitting his record 715th homer in 1974. The Braves traded Aaron to the Milwaukee Brewers in 1975.

BULLPEN ISSUES

The Brewers are adapting their bullpen to account for the absence of setup man and 2020 NL rookie of the year Devin Williams, who fractured his throwing hand when he punched a wall the night Milwaukee clinched the NL Central title.

Milwaukee does appear to have the edge at closer.

All-Star left-hander Josh Hader converted 34 of 35 save opportunities and posted a 1.23 ERA with 102 strikeouts in 58 2/3 innings for the Brewers during the regular season. Atlanta's Will Smith went 37 of 43 on save opportunities and had a 3.44 ERA.

THROWING AWAY FROM HOME

Both teams have fared better on the road than at home. The Braves are 46-35 in away games and 42-38 at home. The Brewers are 50-31 on the road and 45-36 at home.

More AP MLB: <https://apnews.com/hub/MLB> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

**WILD CARD**  
Tuesday, Oct. 5: Boston 6, New York 2  
Wednesday, Oct. 6: Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 1

**DIVISION SERIES (Best-of-5)**  
**American League**  
**Tampa Bay vs. Boston**  
Thursday, Oct. 7: Boston (Rodriguez 13-8) at Tampa Bay (McClanahan 10-6), 7:07 p.m. (FS1)  
Friday, Oct. 8: Boston at Tampa Bay (Baz 2-0), 6:02 p.m. (FS1)  
Saturday, Oct. 10: Tampa Bay at Boston, 5:07 p.m. (MLB)  
Monday, Oct. 11: Tampa Bay at Boston, 6:07 p.m. (FS1)  
Tuesday, Oct. 12: Boston at Tampa Bay, 4:07 p.m. (FS1)  
Wednesday, Oct. 13: Boston at Tampa Bay, 4:07 p.m. (FS1)  
Thursday, Oct. 7: Chicago (Lynn 11-6) at Houston (McCullers 13-5), 3:07 p.m. (FS1)  
Friday, Oct. 8: Chicago (Giolito 11-9) at Houston (Valdez 11-6), 1:07 p.m. (MLB)  
Saturday, Oct. 10: Houston at Chicago, 7:07 p.m. (FS1)  
Monday, Oct. 11: Houston at Chicago, 2:37 p.m. (FS1)  
Tuesday, Oct. 13: Chicago at Houston, 8:07 p.m. (FS1)

**National League**  
**San Francisco vs. Los Angeles**  
Friday, Oct. 8: Los Angeles (Buehler 16-4) at San Francisco (Webb 11-3), 8:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Saturday, Oct. 9: Los Angeles at San Francisco (Gausman 14-6), 8:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Monday, Oct. 11: San Francisco at Los Angeles, 8:37 p.m. (TBS)

Tuesday, Oct. 12: San Francisco at Los Angeles, 8:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Thursday, Oct. 14: Los Angeles at San Francisco, 8:07 p.m. (TBS)

**Milwaukee vs. Atlanta**  
Friday, Oct. 8: Atlanta (Morton 14-6) at Milwaukee (Burnes 11-5), 3:37 p.m. (TBS)  
Saturday, Oct. 9: Atlanta (Fried 14-7) at Milwaukee (Woodruff 9-10), 4:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Monday, Oct. 11: Milwaukee at Atlanta, 12:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Tuesday, Oct. 12: Milwaukee at Atlanta, 4:07 p.m. (TBS)  
Wednesday, Oct. 14: Atlanta at Milwaukee, 4:07 p.m. (TBS)

**LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (Best-of-7)**  
**American League**  
Friday, Oct. 15: Chicago-Houston winner at Tampa Bay or Chicago-Houston winner (Fox)  
Saturday, Oct. 16: Chicago-Houston winner at Tampa Bay or Chicago-Houston winner (Fox or FS1)  
Monday, Oct. 18: Tampa Bay at Chicago-Houston winner or Chicago-Houston winner at Boston (Fox)  
Tuesday, Oct. 19: Tampa Bay at Chicago-Houston winner or Chicago-Houston winner at Boston (Fox)  
Wednesday, Oct. 20: Tampa Bay at Chicago-Houston winner or Chicago-Houston winner at Boston (Fox)  
Friday, Oct. 22: Chicago-Houston winner at Tampa Bay or Boston at Chicago-Houston winner (Fox or FS1)  
Saturday, Oct. 23: Chicago-Houston winner at Tampa Bay or Boston at Chicago-Houston winner (Fox or FS1)

**National League**  
Friday, Oct. 15: San Francisco or Los Angeles winner at San Francisco or Los Angeles (Fox)  
Saturday, Oct. 16: San Francisco or Los Angeles winner at San Francisco or Los Angeles (Fox)  
Monday, Oct. 18: Tampa Bay at Chicago-Houston winner or Chicago-Houston winner at Boston (Fox)  
Tuesday, Oct. 19: Tampa Bay at Chicago-Houston winner or Chicago-Houston winner at Boston (Fox)  
Wednesday, Oct. 20: Tampa Bay at Chicago-Houston winner or Chicago-Houston winner at Boston (Fox)  
Friday, Oct. 22: Chicago-Houston winner at Tampa Bay or Boston at Chicago-Houston winner (Fox or FS1)  
Saturday, Oct. 23: Chicago-Houston winner at Tampa Bay or Boston at Chicago-Houston winner (Fox or FS1)

**National League**  
Saturday, Oct. 16: Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at San Francisco or Los Angeles at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner (TBS)  
Sunday, Oct. 17: Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at San Francisco or Los Angeles at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner (TBS)  
Tuesday, Oct. 19: San Francisco at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner or Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at Los Angeles (TBS)  
Wednesday, Oct. 20: San Francisco at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner or Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at Los Angeles (TBS)  
Thursday, Oct. 21: San Francisco at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner or Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at Los Angeles (TBS)  
Friday, Oct. 22: Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at San Francisco or Los Angeles at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner (TBS)  
Saturday, Oct. 24: Atlanta-Milwaukee winner at San Francisco or Los Angeles at Atlanta-Milwaukee winner (TBS)

**WORLD SERIES (Best-of-7)**  
Tuesday, Oct. 26: at better record (Fox)  
Wednesday, Oct. 27: at better record (Fox)  
Friday, Oct. 29: at worse record (Fox)  
Saturday, Oct. 30: at worse record (Fox)  
Sunday, Oct. 31: at worse record (Fox)  
Tuesday, Nov. 2: at better record (Fox)  
Wednesday, Nov. 3: at better record (Fox)

## Public Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Rural Development  
**Badger State Solar, LLC** Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on October 26, 2021.

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA  
ACTION: Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold a Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project [Project]. The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

**DATES:** The public scoping meeting webinar will be held on October 26, 2021 at 7pm EST via Zoom. Comments for consideration during the scoping process must be received on or before November 6th, 2021.

**Registration:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual scoping meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. The virtual public scoping meeting room is an interactive website which will include information about the project, the NEPA process, and next steps in the process. Attendees will be able to provide spoken comments during the webinar. Written comments can be submitted through the virtual scoping meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov). Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at <https://www.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/imp-act-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>. Project information will also be available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The proposed project is approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. The collector substation would be located in the Primary Development Area. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 16 U.S.C.470(f), and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800). Any party wishing to participate directly with RUS as a "consulting party" in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to any and all requests for consulting party status. RUS will be seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. Draft EIS will be used in preparing the Draft EIS. Comments should be submitted using the information provided so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

- RUS will prepare a Draft EIS which will then be filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The Draft EIS will be available for public comment by the Fall 2021. At that time, the RUS and USEPA will publish a notice of the availability of the Draft EIS and notice of receipt, respectively, in the Federal Register. In addition, the Badger State Solar will publish notices in local newspapers and any online local news sources. The comment period for the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes its Federal Register notice announcing receipt of the Draft EIS.
- To assist the involved federal agencies in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposal, comments on the Draft EIS should be as specific as possible. It is also helpful if the comments refer to the specific pages or chapters of the Draft EIS. Comments may also address the adequacy of the Draft EIS or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. After the comment period ends on the Draft EIS, the comments will be analyzed, considered, and responded to by the agencies involved in preparing the Final EIS.

- The public will again have the opportunity to review and comment on the Final EIS. Upon completion of a 30-day public comment period, the RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.
- Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.

## BOWLING

**TROUBLE ON 26**  
High scores – Men: Brad Ziemer 750 (234, 227, 289), Brad Dantuma 746 (235, 223, 288), Kadan Jablonski 717 (234, 258, 225), AJ Ritschke 640 (226, 216, 214), Zach Schaefer 613 (233, 211, 231), Jake Sell 632 (232, 246), Eddie Laatsch 602 (217, 215), Women: Tiana Bostwick 579 (206), Amy Ecksteadt 536, Stacy Laatsch 511

Standings	Pts.
Division 1	31
Ultimate Landscaping	30
Wasted Management	20
Father's Country Campers	25
Watertown Bowl	18
Hair by Ashley Anne	18
Division 2	16
Drafty Mistifs	26
Gudenkoff Farms	25
We Don't Care	5
G Brock Auto Repair	13
Johnson & Heilesson	9
Dr Right	13

**TUESDAY SENIORS**  
High scores – Men: Ron Benninger 642 (213,246), Pete Boer 638 (204,233,201), Carl Schultz 617 (215,209), Bruce Kemmerling 595 (233), Harvey Zimmer 563, Erv Bankert 551 (206), Mike Grossman 517 (202), Jim Hrobosky 510 (237), Wayne Kufner 492 (200), Tim Archambault 501. Women: Judy Schwantes 467, Ines Schmidt 456, Deb Archambault 456, Christine Peters 446, Teresa Olsen 448

Standings	Pts.
Final four	25
Hot Beers	22
Warnabees	24
4-chicks	23
Mistis	22
Bowling stones	22
Mistis	22
Gutter dusters	19
Different strokes	18
Krueger builders	14
Survivors	14
The orifices	8

**WHEELER KINGS**  
High scores – Men: Jonathan Kaufmann 744 (207, 248, 289), An-

draw Jonas 721 (248, 248, 225), Brad Dantuma 694 (268, 237), John Fisher 681 (235, 210, 230), Damien Lopez 677 (223, 255), Will Reed 624 (253), Mark Kube 665 (246, 216, 214), Zach Schaefer 658 (267, 211), Doug Kettelhorn 643 (203, 248), Bill Bergmann 620 (247), Travis Beerborn 618 (240), Rick Kleinschmidt 602 (243, 200). Women: Ashley Kaufmann 614 (274), Brett Lopez 589 (208), Kristen Hoffmann 548 (224), Diane Kaufmann 512

Standings	Pts.
Boobs Bunch	25
Ma Paws Me Pet Rescue	24
American Family Insurance	22
Local Waters	19
Fun Farm N Toys	16
Revolution Pro Shop	16
We Don't Care	14
G Brock Auto Repair	13
Johnson & Heilesson	9

**LADIES FRIENDLY**  
High scores: Jen Bowlin 668 (226, 212, 230), Karin Reszysny 661 (225, 268), Jen May 645 (279), Katelyn Hodel 568 (213), Holly Bauer 565 (215), Barb Bauer 521, Sara Kozlikow 514 (515), Terry Zastrow 513, Al Mauer 510 (200), Amanda Saeger 507, Kim Holterman 504 (200)

Standings	Pts.
Who Gives A Split	28
The Ball Handlers	27
Split Happens	24
Kremer's	21
RJ Exteriors	20
Kozl Homes	22
Silver Eagle	22
Stacey's	22
Watertown Bowl	16
Schaefer's	14
Stacey's 1	14
Alley Gals!	12
Travel Leaders	8

**COMMUNITY**  
High scores: Jamie Genz 659 (233), Dean Sellnow 638 (227), Larry Romney 618 (235), Keith Gies 615 (222), Brad Ziemer 606 (212)

**PTS.**  
KG Builders 13  
Stall Agronomy 11  
Silver Eagle Saloon 11  
Ann's Farmington 9  
Watertown Bowl 9  
Schaefer's Soft Water 6

**SLEEPER**  
High scores: Pete Richter 718 (290), Josh Bartz 694 (267), Jason Bavuso 671 (262), Brandon Radloff 664 (248), John Foltz 655 (253), Tim Courtney 674 (234), Amanda Blanke 619 (248), Diane Kaufmann 614 (220)

Standings	Pts.
Pine Cone	23
JLS	31
G&W Electric	28
Rusty Mail	28
Miller 64	24
Kathy's Buffalo	19
Watertown Bowl	14
Jack's	11
Hersh's Gang	9

**MOONLITERS**  
High scores: Lisa Morris 525, Amanda Kelly 504, Jenni Sommers 475, Lisa Curtisforth 460, RoxAnne Witte 454

Standings	Pts.
Watertown Bowl	14
Country Campers	14
DAM Doctors	12
Father's Country Campers	12
Somms	9
Kube Custom Carpentry	12
Berres Brothers	7

**Fall/Winter Wii Bowling ROCKING SENIORS**  
High scores above 500: John Flahive 693, Pauline Schoemann 619, Richard Schoemann 584, Lloyd Schewe 536, Rose Christian 508

Standings	Pts.
1 PLS	20
6 CSPS	20
8 BTBB	20
5 JRCR	18
3 JSMB	16
4 CHRMB	12
2 PLS	4

**Attachment C: Virtual Scoping Open House Materials**



**Virtual Scoping Open House Posters**





**Welcome**  
to the

**Badger State  
Solar  
Environmental  
Impact  
Statement**

**Virtual Scoping  
Open House**

October 6 –

November 6, 2021



---

# The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Scoping

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to meet its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR part 1500), and Agency regulations (7 CFR part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures).

NEPA requires federal agencies identify and analyze the potential environmental effects of proposed federal actions and alternatives before those actions take place. NEPA's intent is to protect, restore, or enhance the environment through well-informed federal decisions. Public involvement is integral to the federal decision-making process and is required by NEPA.

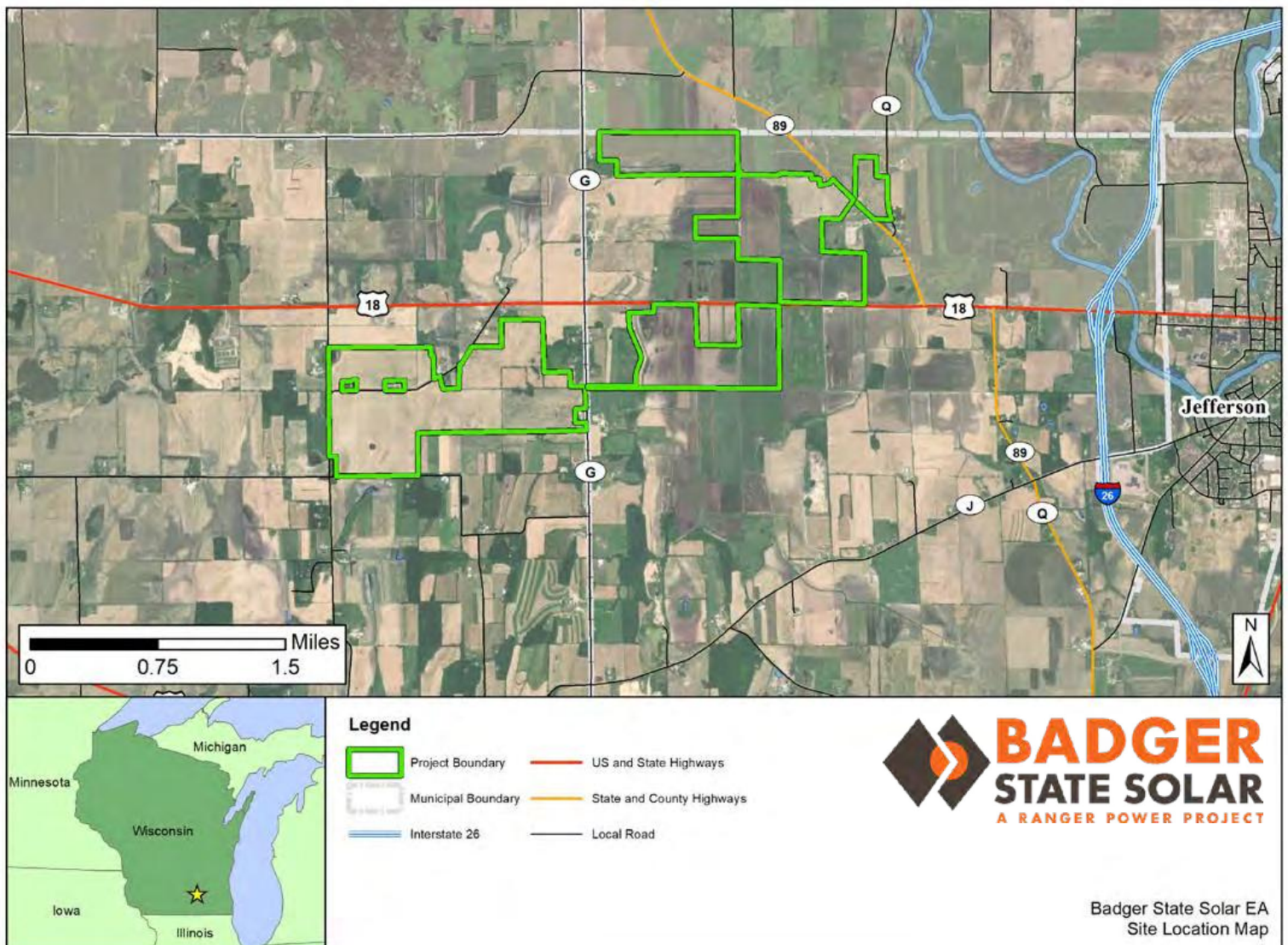
The primary scope of the EIS is to evaluate the environmental impacts of and alternatives to Badger State Solar LLC's application for financial assistance to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) Alternating Current (AC) solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, Jefferson County, Wisconsin.

# Project Location

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-MW PV solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin.

The proposed site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S. Highway 18.

A power purchase agreement has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years.



---

# Project Description and Alternatives

The proposed project would include:

- Installation on leased lands of 127,752 single-axis tracking PV panels mounted on a steel racking frame. The site would be fenced.
- Electrical substation.
- Internal site access roads.
- The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.
- The proposed site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S. Highway 18.

The EIS will evaluate two project alternatives:

- **No-Action Alternative:** RUS would not provide funding for the Badger State Solar project. Badger State would either seek funding from other sources or would not develop the solar facility and would not interconnect at the ATC-owned Jefferson 138kV substation.
- **Proposed Action:** RUS would provide funding for the Badger State Solar project. The project would offset the loss of generated power from coal-fired power plant closures with renewable solar generated power that would contribute to Dairyland Power's Sustainable Generation Plan goals of reducing carbon dioxide intensity rate and increasing renewable power generation.



---

# Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed action is to develop a utility-scale solar facility in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, to replace load demand on local utilities resulting from coal-fired power plant closures or scheduled decommissioning.

Many of Wisconsin's fossil-fueled power plants are scheduled to cease power generation over the next several years. Six of the 12 coal-fired power plants in Wisconsin have been retired or are scheduled to go offline, including Dairyland Power's Genoa #3 coal-fired power plant which is scheduled to close in June 2021. Construction of the Badger State Solar project would help replace some of this baseload power. Replacing fossil-fuel-generated power with renewable solar power also would contribute to Dairyland Power's Sustainable Generation Plan goals of reducing carbon dioxide intensity rate and increasing renewable power generation 30 percent by 2030.



# Anticipated Environmental Impacts

The EIS will include a detailed evaluation of the environmental, social, and economic impacts associated with implementation of the proposed action and no action alternative. Measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential adverse effects will also be identified and evaluated in the EIS.

Resource areas to be addressed in the EIS include, but are not limited to:

- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Land Use and Zoning
- Noise
- Prime Farmland
- Public Health and Safety
- Soils and Geology
- Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Vegetation, Invasive Species, Noxious Weeds
- Visual Resources
- Water Resources
- Wetlands and Riparian Areas
- Wildlife

# EIS Preparation and Schedule

Badger State will consider comments received during the scoping period and develop a scoping report which will inform the development of the Draft EIS. The scoping report will summarize public and agency comments that were received and identify the projected schedule for completing the EIS process

INITIATIVE	AUG	SEP	OCT	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2021	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2021	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2022	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr 2022	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2022	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2022
Publication of Notice of Intent in the Federal Register and Public Scoping Period	■								
Prepare and Publish Scoping Report			■						
Develop Draft EIS			■						
Publish Draft EIS					■				
Public Comment Period and Public Meeting						■			
Develop Final EIS							■		
Publish Final EIS								■	
Publish Record of Decision in the Federal Register									■

RUS will post a Draft EIS for public review and comment on the project web page. A public open house, which may be virtual, will be held after release of the Draft EIS. Open house details will be posted on the project website in conjunction with the Draft EIS. RUS expects to release the Draft EIS in Late 2021.

RUS will consider comments received on the Draft EIS and estimates completing a Final EIS in Summer 2022. Upon completion of a 45-day public comment period, RUS will document its decision regarding the proposed Project and reasons for the decision in a Record of Decision. A public notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers.

# Public Involvement

Public participation is an integral component of the environmental review process for federal actions. Public participation is especially important during the scoping phase of the proposed Project. RUS is seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project. This input will be used in preparing the Draft EIS.

Comments submitted during the scoping process should be in writing. The comments should describe as clearly and completely as possible any issues, concerns, or input commenters may have so that they can be addressed appropriately in the EIS.

**Comments are encouraged and must be received or postmarked no later than November 6, 2021.**

Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the project administrative record and will be available for public inspection.

To request consulting party status, submit comments, or for further information, please email:

[BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov)

***Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, hard copies of mail will not be accepted.***

## **Virtual Scoping Open House Screenshots**







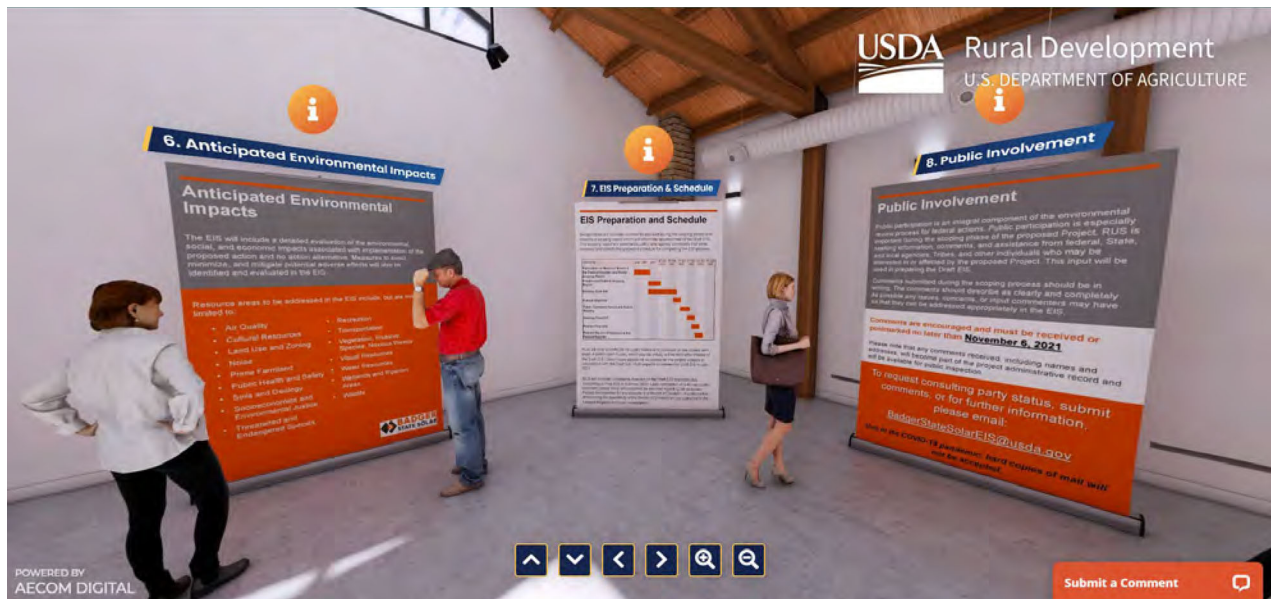
POWERED BY  
AECOM DIGITAL

Submit a Comment



POWERED BY  
AECOM DIGITAL

Submit a Comment  
<https://aecom.io/vc>



Topic      Badger State Solar Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

Description      The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and hold a virtual public scoping meeting in connection with possible impacts related to the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). The Project consists of a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility located on approximately 1,750 acres in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS is considering funding this application, thereby making the proposed Project an undertaking subject to review under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). RUS has determined that a loan for the Project would be a federal action and is, therefore, subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.

Time      Oct 26, 2021 07:00 PM in [Eastern Time \(US and Canada\)](#)

Webinar is over, you cannot register now. If you have any questions, please contact Webinar host: [Kelly Stoll](#).





An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

**USDA Rural Development**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ABOUT USDA ASK USDA HELP

HOME ABOUT RD PROGRAMS & SERVICES NEWSROOM **RESOURCES** CONTACT US

**Impact Statements**

HOME > RESOURCES > ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES > **IMPACT STATEMENTS**


An impact statement is a short document that explains the significance of the research work.

Title

Company

**Search**


Home  
About RD  
Programs & Services  
Newsroom  
**Resources**

 **BADGER STATE SOLAR**  
A BADGER POWER PROJECT

PROJECT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ABOUT US CONTACT

# BADGER STATE SOLAR

Environmental Benefits Community & Economic Benefits Why Solar?



## THE PROJECT







**Attachment D: Public Scoping Meeting Transcript**





BADGER STATE SOLAR VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

October 26, 2021

SPEAKING PANELISTS:

Ms. Carol Freeman, AECOM;

Mr. Peter Steinour, USDA RUS;

Ms. Emily Straka, Badger State Solar.

## 1 PROCEEDINGS:

2 MS. FREEMAN: Hello, my name is Carol Freeman.  
3 I am the facilitator for tonight's meeting. Welcome to  
4 the Badger State Solar project virtual scoping meeting.  
5 Please note this session is being recorded to maintain a  
6 record of the discussion and of the comments received.  
7 Your participation in this call indicates your consent  
8 to be recorded.

9 Today's meeting is being held during the  
10 30-day public comment period for the notice of intent,  
11 or NOI, the Badger State Solar and Rural Utilities  
12 Service have prepared a notice of intent to prepare an  
13 environmental impact statement, or EIS, to evaluate the  
14 potential impacts associated with the Badger State Solar  
15 project.

16 The format for our meeting today is to begin  
17 with brief remarks from the United States Department of  
18 Agriculture's Rural Utility Service, USDA RUS, the  
19 federal agency responsible for conducting the  
20 environmental review. These remarks will be followed by  
21 a brief presentation from the Badger State Solar team to  
22 provide an overview of this project. Finally, we will  
23 open the meeting to public comments. Thank you for  
24 attending this evening's session. I will now turn the  
25 floor over to Peter Steinour to provide opening remarks

1 for the RUS. Peter, the floor is yours.

2 MR. STEINOUR: Thank you, Carol. Good  
3 evening. Thank you for joining us for the Badger State  
4 Solar Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping  
5 meeting. My name is Peter Steinour. I am an  
6 environmental protection specialist with the USDA Rural  
7 Utilities Service whose mission is to provide electric,  
8 telecommunication, water and waste treatment,  
9 infrastructure, and infrastructure improvements in the  
10 rural communities.

11 Our goal for this meeting is to receive  
12 questions and comments to help us to identify the  
13 significant issues that must be further evaluated in the  
14 Environmental Impact Statement for this project. I will  
15 now ask Emily Straka, project developer for the Badger  
16 State Solar project to give us a project overview  
17 presentation. Emily.

18 MS. STRAKA: Great, thanks, Peter. Carol, do  
19 you mind enabling screen sharing?

20 MS. FREEMAN: Certainly.

21 MS. STRAKA: Thanks.

22 MS. FREEMAN: Go ahead and try, Emily.

23 MS. STRAKA: There we go. Can everyone see my  
24 screen?

25 MS. FREEMAN: Yes.

1 MS. STRAKA: Perfect. Thank you, Peter and  
2 Carol, for your opening remarks. So I am Emily Straka.  
3 I am the project developer for the Badger State Solar  
4 project. A little bit about Ranger Power to get us  
5 started here, Ranger is a development group that  
6 specializes in solely utility scale solar. We do have  
7 two fully commissioned projects in the Midwest and are  
8 looking at about over 500 megawatts to begin operation  
9 by the end of 2021. We work in states such as  
10 Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska, and  
11 have over 5 gigawatts of project development throughout  
12 the Midwest.

13 We really take pride in our community  
14 engagement efforts. We don't just engage with land  
15 owners and local governments, but we also collaborate  
16 with neighbors to every project as well as a broad range  
17 of stakeholder groups, everyone from the local Kiwanis  
18 club to snowmobile groups that are in the area.

19 So Badger State Solar was actually our first  
20 project that we began developing in Wisconsin. It is a  
21 149 megawatt HD solar generating facility that is  
22 proposed to be located in the Township of Jefferson,  
23 Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, which is  
24 located about two miles west of the City of Jefferson.  
25 The land use is primarily agricultural. Most of the

1 project area currently is being used for planting  
2 soybeans and corn as well as some mint. We do expect  
3 the project facilities to be sited on approximately  
4 1,200 acres out of the total 1,750 acres leased for the  
5 project.

6           Regarding permitting, the project received a  
7 certificate of public convenience and necessity, or  
8 CPCN, from the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in  
9 February of 2020, which is the main discretionary permit  
10 required for the project, and other ministerial permits  
11 are ongoing as the site progresses.

12           We have also partnered with Dairyland Power  
13 Cooperative, it is a rural electric cooperative based  
14 out of La Crosse, to purchase the power -- the full  
15 power outlet from the project.

16           So our site selection process usually starts  
17 with locating substations throughout the state across  
18 the region that we are now working in, and it's really  
19 important to evaluate the existing transmission system  
20 and see, you know, what substations are currently  
21 available and how robust they are to handle plugging in  
22 a project of this size. We do work with MISO, Midwest  
23 Independent System Operator, to submit a cue position,  
24 and then they evaluate the impact on the local  
25 electricity grant. So that is the first step there.

1           After that, we typically look at the  
2 characteristics of the land around that substation.  
3 We're looking at features such as, you know, the  
4 topography, the land use, is it agricultural, are there,  
5 you know, larger housing developments, because we're  
6 particularly interested in open, flat land. And we will  
7 also approach local land owners to see if they have an  
8 interest in participating in such a project because  
9 participation is fully voluntarily. There is no -- any  
10 sort of eminent domain.

11           We also look at environmental constraints,  
12 looking at impacts to wetlands, waterways, typically  
13 approach development with an avoidance method, you know,  
14 the more wetlands/waterways we can avoid, the better, as  
15 well as wooded areas, you know, looking at endangered  
16 species that may live in wooded areas nearby. So those  
17 are kind of all the things that we are looking at when  
18 we are looking to begin development on a project.

19           So just digging into this a little bit more,  
20 when we first started looking at Wisconsin as a state  
21 that we're interested in developing in, we identified a  
22 number of substations throughout the state. And at  
23 first we are eliminating them due to the location of  
24 them. You can see there's a couple that are located  
25 pretty far north in the state that can make the solar

1 resource difficult to utilize, as well as, you know,  
2 pretty remote areas where they are not near major load  
3 systems. The southern part of the state has major load  
4 centers such as Milwaukee and Madison, which makes that  
5 a more viable option.

6 And then also looking at the size of the  
7 substation; typically we don't look at anything below  
8 100 kV just because it likely will not be robust enough  
9 to withstand the input of these projects, or if it can,  
10 there likely would be significant transmission upgrades.  
11 Then once we evaluate the substation's transmission  
12 system, we will take a look at some of the constraints  
13 that I mentioned earlier, you know, the land use as well  
14 as environmental features.

15 And then the last phase is, you know, really  
16 approaching land owners and see who may be interested  
17 and whether the site viable, at which point we would  
18 choose to proceed.

19 So the Wisconsin Certificate of Public  
20 Convenience and Necessity is required for projects that  
21 are over 100 megawatts, and the process is commissioned  
22 by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. It's a  
23 very intense process that includes a lot of public  
24 input, public comments, hearings, testimony from  
25 experts, as well as technical hearings. So the first



1 step for that process was meeting with commissioned  
2 staff and staff from the Wisconsin Department of Natural  
3 Resources to understand the permit requirements and make  
4 sure that, you know, our application was meeting the  
5 state requirements. So that meeting was held in April  
6 of 2018.

7 Later that year we submitted our engineering  
8 plan, which is required to be submitted at least 60 days  
9 before submitting our CPCN application, enough to give  
10 commission a chance to review the technical features and  
11 prepare a review on their end.

12 The full year of 2018, April 2018 to  
13 April 2019 we completed our technical studies, which  
14 range from glare hazard analysis to wetland irrigation  
15 reports, as well as EMS studies, and a number of other  
16 reports, visual simulations. And then in March of 2019  
17 we began preparing that application, analyzing the  
18 results of our technical reports and integrating that  
19 into the CPCN requirements, which was submitted in May  
20 of 2019.

21 The Public Service Commission deemed the  
22 application complete in June of 2019, so it was about  
23 30 days later. And later that year, September of 2019,  
24 the commission worked with the Wisconsin Department of  
25 Natural Resources to determine the scope of the

1 environmental assessment which ultimately deemed that  
2 there was no significant impact of the project. And  
3 finally, the written order was received in February of  
4 2020 for the CPCN.

5 So now that we do have the CPCN in hand,  
6 there's still a lot of outstanding work. We need to  
7 coordinate with the Army Corps of engineers, as well as  
8 Department of Natural Resources for a number of permits,  
9 Jefferson County for impacts to roads in terms of  
10 crossings, locating hunter systems within those roads  
11 where applicable, as well as homeowner plans, driveway  
12 permits. The Town of Jefferson, Oakland, will also be  
13 consulted with for driveway approvals. And the Badger  
14 State project is located within a drainage district, so  
15 we are working with them currently to discuss the  
16 implications for the drainage ways that they have  
17 jurisdiction over.

18 So permitting is one bucket, and then the  
19 other bucket is title. So for all of our -- for all of  
20 the land that we have secured, we look at all of the  
21 title records and look at cleaning titles so that we  
22 have the necessary rights to gain title policy, and also  
23 looking at utilities in the area and working with them  
24 to secure crossing agreements and easements, which we  
25 will do our best to be completed once -- once we have

1 our final site designed and have completed all of these  
2 tasks.

3 So that is the overview. Thank you, again,  
4 Carol and Peter, and I will turn it back over to you.

5 MS. FREEMAN: Thank you, Emily. As a  
6 reminder, today's call is being held during the 30-day  
7 public comment period for the notice of intent for  
8 Badger State Solar and Rural Utilities Service have  
9 prepared to announce the intent to prepare an  
10 Environmental Impact Statement to evaluate the potential  
11 impacts associated with the Badger State Solar project.  
12 The public scoping period began on October 6th, 2021,  
13 and it will end on November 6th, 2021.

14 Although we will be taking comments and  
15 questions from audience members during today's call, we  
16 will not be responding directly to any questions and  
17 comments at this time. All questions and comments  
18 received today will be addressed in the draft  
19 Environmental Impact Statement, which is expected to be  
20 completed in the near future. Rural Utilities Service  
21 will review all of the comments and questions received  
22 during the entire 30-day scoping period, substantive  
23 comments will be addressed in the draft EIS.

24 There will be an additional opportunity to  
25 submit public comments during the release of the draft

1 EIS. Those comments will be considered and addressed in  
2 the final EIS. And the selected alternative for the  
3 Badger State Solar project will be memorialized in the  
4 record decision that will be issued following the final  
5 EIS.

6 I will now review the format for the public  
7 comment portion of the meeting. As a reminder, this  
8 call is being recorded via Zoom and a court reporter to  
9 maintain a record of the discussion and of the comments  
10 and questions received during the meeting. Your  
11 participation in this call indicates your consent to be  
12 recorded.

13 The procedures for providing a comment or  
14 question during this meeting will be as follows: All  
15 attendees are muted. Each caller will be addressed by  
16 name in the order registered for the meeting. You will  
17 be unmuted for approximately three minutes to state your  
18 comment or question. I will give a 30-second warning  
19 before your time ends. When called, please state your  
20 name and affiliation, and listen closely for your name  
21 to be called. If you do not wish to comment when  
22 called, please respond "no comment at this time."

23 If you wish to submit a comment at a later  
24 time, you can submit them via e-mail or regular mail to  
25 the addresses on the screen: So via e-mail to



1 BadgerStateSolarEIS, all one word, @USDA.gov, or via  
2 mail to United States Department of Agriculture,  
3 Attention: Peter Steinour, S-T-E-I-N-O-U-R, Mail Stop  
4 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400  
5 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250. We do  
6 encourage submittal of comments electronically. All  
7 comments will be accepted. The comment period ends on  
8 November 6th.

9 The draft EIS and related documents including  
10 posters, fact sheets, the alternatives evaluation study,  
11 and site evaluation study, are posted for public review  
12 and downloadable on the virtual open house website and  
13 also on the USDA RUS -- sorry, let me start that again:  
14 The rural development USDA resources page, and the  
15 Badger State Solar page. All three of these addresses  
16 are on the screen, and I will post them in the chat as  
17 well. Project information is also available at the  
18 Jefferson Public Library, the Cambridge Community  
19 Library, and the Lake Mills Library.

20 At this time we will begin accepting public  
21 comments. To begin, I am going to invite Brian Udovich.  
22 If you would like to submit a comment, please feel free.  
23 Next then, I would like to invite Mary Rupnow.

24 MS. RUPNOW: I have no comment at this time.

25 MS. FREEMAN: Thank you, Mary. If anyone does

1 have a comment, feel free to use the "raise your hand"  
2 feature in Zoom, or to submit a comment through the  
3 chat. It does not appear as if we have any comments at  
4 this time. We will remain on the line in case  
5 additional comments come up. As a reminder, comments  
6 can be submitted tonight. You can indicate an interest  
7 in speaking by the "raise your hand" feature, or  
8 submitting comments in the chat, or comments can be  
9 submitted via e-mail or mail to the addresses on the  
10 screen. I am not seeing any additional comments at this  
11 time. We will continue to remain on the line.

12 Information regarding how to submit comments  
13 via e-mail and mail has been posted into the chat.  
14 Attendees should be able to copy that information if  
15 you're interested in submitting written comments. As a  
16 reminder, those comments will be accepted through  
17 November 6th. If anyone would like to submit a spoken  
18 comment tonight, you're welcome to use the "raise your  
19 hand" feature which I believe is at the bottom of the  
20 screen, or to submit a comment at the chat function.

21 Links to the project websites, which are being  
22 shown on the screen right now, have been posted in the  
23 chat. For ease of access, all three of these websites  
24 do contain information about the project including fax  
25 sheets, project information, and the alternatives in

1           siting studies. And the names of three libraries and  
2           locations of those libraries has also been posted in  
3           chat for your convenience. If there are any comments or  
4           questions, feel free to use the "raise your hand"  
5           feature in the Zoom meeting or to submit a comment  
6           through chat and I will be happy to unmute microphones  
7           so you can present a spoken comment.

8                        If there is anyone who would like to submit a  
9           comment tonight, please feel free to submit a comment  
10          through the chat feature, or using the "raise your hand"  
11          function and I will be able to unmute your microphone so  
12          you are able to submit a comment. We will continue to  
13          remain on the line.

14                      At the moment it does not seem like we have  
15          any verbal comments to be submitted. As a reminder, if  
16          you would like to submit written comments you can do it  
17          through the e-mail address or mailing address on the  
18          screen. Those written comments need to be received by  
19          November 6th, 2021.

20                      For additional information about the project,  
21          you can visit the three websites posted on the screen  
22          and addresses are also in the chat. You can also visit  
23          the three libraries, and the information for those  
24          libraries is also in the chat. As it doesn't appear we  
25          have any additional verbal comments, at this time we're

1 going to go ahead and take a ten-minute break. Project  
2 personnel are going to remain on the line, and we will  
3 resume. If we see any information submitted in chat or  
4 any raised hands or anyone new arrives at the meeting,  
5 we will go ahead and resume the meeting. Otherwise, we  
6 will go ahead and take a ten-minute break at this time.

7 (A recess was taken.)

8 MS. FREEMAN: We are now resuming the public  
9 comment portion of this meeting. As a reminder, this is  
10 a public meeting for the scoping period on the Badger  
11 State Solar project. This meeting is being recorded.  
12 Your participation in this meeting indicates your  
13 consent to be recorded. I am not seeing any raised  
14 hands or comments in the chat at this time. If you  
15 would like to provide a verbal comment, please freely to  
16 use the raised hand feature or to make a note in the  
17 chat and I will be happy to unmute your microphone so  
18 you can submit a spoken comment.

19 If you would like to submit written comments,  
20 you can do that via e-mail at  
21 BadgerStateSolarEIS@USDA.gov or via mail to United  
22 States Department of Agricultural, Attention Peter  
23 Steinour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service,  
24 WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C.,  
25 20250. You can find additional information about the



1 project on the three project websites: The first is the  
2 virtual open house room which is an interactive website,  
3 the second is the RUS project website, and the third is  
4 the Badger State Solar website. Information about the  
5 project is also available at the Jefferson Public  
6 Library in Jefferson, Wisconsin, the Cambridge Community  
7 Library in Cambridge, and Lake Mills Library in Lake  
8 Mills.

9 As a reminder, all written comments should be  
10 submitted by November 6th of this year. Written  
11 comments will be reviewed and incorporated into the  
12 draft EIS. There will be additional opportunities for  
13 public involvement and public comments once the draft  
14 EIS is published, which is expected to be early of next  
15 year. We will continue to remain on the line. If  
16 anyone is interested in making a comment, feel free to  
17 use the "raise your hand" feature or to indicate a  
18 comment in the chat.

19 As I am not seeing any additional public  
20 comments at this time, we're going to go ahead and take  
21 a ten-minute break. We will remain on the line. If  
22 anyone does have any comments, feel free to use the  
23 raised hand feature or to indicate a comment in the  
24 chat. And we will resume the meeting, otherwise, ten  
25 minutes at 6:55 p.m. Central, 7:55 p.m. Eastern.

1 (A recess was taken.)

2 MS. FREEMAN: We are now resuming the meeting.  
3 I am not seeing any additional attendees or raised hand  
4 on the comments in the chat. As a reminder, if you  
5 would like to submit written comments you may do that  
6 via e-mail to BadgerStateSolarEIS@USDA.gov, via mail to  
7 United States Department of Agriculture at Mail Stop  
8 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400  
9 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20250. All  
10 written comments should be submitted by November 6th,  
11 2021. Substantiative comments will be addressed in the  
12 draft EIS. There will be an additional opportunity for  
13 public comment after publication of the draft EIS.

14 If you're interested in additional information  
15 about the project, you can visit one of the three  
16 project websites shown on the screen. These addresses  
17 are also posted in the chat as are the addresses for  
18 submitting public comments. Project information is also  
19 available at the Jefferson Public Library, the Cambridge  
20 Community Library, and the Lake Mills Library.

21 We will continue to remain on the line if  
22 there are any additional comments. We'll remain on the  
23 line until 7:00 p.m. Central, 8:00 p.m. Eastern, at  
24 which time we will begin to wrap up the meeting unless  
25 there are additional comments.

1           I am not seeing any additional comments or new  
2 attendees at this time. One final reminder, the public  
3 comment period, the scoping period, will end on November  
4 6th, 2021. Written comments should be submitted no  
5 later than November 6th. Additional information about  
6 the project can be viewed at the different websites or  
7 at the three public libraries. URLs for the websites  
8 and the names of the public libraries are all listed in  
9 the chat feature.

10           At this point we would like to thank you again  
11 for your interest in the Badger State Solar project and  
12 for your participation in today's call. This concludes  
13 today's call. Everyone have a good night. Thank you.

14           (Proceedings concluded at 7:00 p.m.)

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



This page intentionally left blank

**Attachment E: Public and Agency Comments**





**From:** [SM.RUDV.DC.BadgerStateSolar.EIS](#)  
**To:** [Kitchen, Anthony J CIV USARMY CEMVP \(USA\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Freeman, Carol L B](#); [Howard, Basia - RD, Washington, DC](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: USDA RUS Badger State Solar Interagency Scoping Meeting  
**Date:** Monday, November 01, 2021 2:46:36 PM

---

Hi A.J.,

Thank you for your interest in being a consulting party on the Badger State Solar project. We will keep you informed as the project progresses. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me at [peter.steinour@usda.gov](mailto:peter.steinour@usda.gov) with any questions.

Peter

Peter Steinour  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Rural Utilities Service, Rural Development  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250  
Office: 202-692-5346  
Mobile: 202-961-6140

---

**From:** Kitchen, Anthony J CIV USARMY CEMVP (USA) <Anthony.J.Kitchen@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 10:58 AM  
**To:** SM.RUDV.DC.BadgerStateSolar.EIS <BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov>  
**Cc:** Carol.Freeman@aecom.com  
**Subject:** USDA RUS Badger State Solar Interagency Scoping Meeting

Good morning,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division would like to be a consulting party for this project but does not need to be a cooperating agency.

I can be the point of contact. My contact information is below. Thank you.

A.J.

A.J. Kitchen, Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District, Regulatory Division  
Brookfield Field Office  
250 N. Sunnyslope Road, Suite 296  
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005  
Office: 651-290-5729 | [Anthony.J.Kitchen@usace.army.mil](mailto:Anthony.J.Kitchen@usace.army.mil)

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

**VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING MATERIALS**

through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at <https://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/ad-3027>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of the alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) *Mail*: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410;
- (2) *Fax*: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) *Email*: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

**Karama Neal,**

*Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service.*

[FR Doc. 2022-04293 Filed 2-28-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-XY-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

[Docket #: RUS-22-ELECTRIC-0011]

#### Badger State Solar, LLC; Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of a draft environmental impact statement and notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) announces that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC is available for public review and comment. RUS is publishing the Draft EIS to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA, and

RUS, Environmental Policies and Procedures and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project). Badger State Solar intends to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the EIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. RUS has determined that its action regarding the Proposed Action is an undertaking subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulation, "Protection of Historic Properties" and as part of its broad environmental review process, RUS must take into account the effect of the Proposed Action on historic properties. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft EIS must be received during the comment period, which begins March 4th and ends April 18th. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft EIS will be held in a virtual format on Tuesday, March 22nd, at 7 p.m. EST via Zoom. Written comments may be submitted via email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov) or by mail as noted in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice.

Those wishing to attend the meeting are invited to register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. An email will be sent to registrants with information for how to access the meeting. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the meeting. Oral comments from the public will be recorded by a certified court reporter. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public comment period. Attendees will also be able to submit written comments through the virtual public meeting room website. All comments submitted during the public review period, oral or written, will become part of the public record. Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may

be made publicly available at any time. All comments will be reviewed and responded to in the Final EIS. For consideration in the Final EIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. EST on Monday, April 18th.

**ADDRESSES:** The Draft EIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

In addition, hard copies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI. Parties wishing to be placed on the mailing list for future information or to receive hard or electronic copies of the EIS should also contact the person contact below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions can be directed to Peter Steinour, 202-961-6140, [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov) during the open comment period. Comments submitted after the comment period may not be considered by the agency. This email address may also be used to request consulting party status and to inquire about additional information.

Written comments may also be submitted by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steinour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250 during the open comment period. Comments submitted after the comment period may not be considered by the agency. This mail address may also be used to request consulting party status and to inquire about additional information.

Project-related information will be available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, electronic communication is preferred because delivery of hard copies by mail may not be delivered in a timely manner.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**1. Agencies Involved and Status**

Rural Utilities Service, Lead Agency  
United States Army Corps of Engineers,  
Consulting Party for Section 106

United States Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Participating Agency

## 2. Project Description and Location

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-megawatt photovoltaic Alternating Current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Bader State Solar estimates the total project cost will be approximately \$225,000,000. Project construction would begin in October 2022. Construction would be complete and the project would be expected to come online by Fall 2023.

Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The PV panels would be mounted on a steel racking frame. Supporting facilities include an electrical substation. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project. The proposed site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S. Highway 18.

Construction equipment would include graders, bulldozers, excavators, forklifts, trailers, plows, trenchers, pile drivers, and directional boring rigs. Vehicles for transporting construction materials and components primarily would be legal load over-the-road flatbed and box trucks. Transport would use existing regional roads, bridges, and intersections. Laydown areas would be established within the Project site. Internal site access roads would be required. The site would be fenced.

## 3. Purpose and Need for the Action

The Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (REA), as amended (7 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to make rural electrification and telecommunication loans, and specifies eligible borrowers, references, purposes, terms and conditions, and security requirements. RUS is authorized to make loans and loan guarantees to finance the construction of electric distribution, transmission, and

generation facilities, including system improvements and replacements required to furnish and improve electric service in rural areas, as well as demand-side management, electricity conservation programs, and on- and off-grid renewable electricity systems.

The Applicant intends to request financing assistance from RUS for the Project's 149-MW solar array in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. RUS's proposed federal action is to decide whether to provide financing assistance for the Project.

As part of its review process, RUS is required to complete the NEPA process along with other technical and financial considerations in processing the Applicant's application. RUS agency actions include the following:

1. Provide engineering reviews of the purpose and need, engineering feasibility, and cost of the Project.
2. Ensure that the Project meets the borrower's requirements and prudent utility practices.
3. Evaluate the financial ability of the borrower to repay its potential financial obligations to RUS.
4. Ensure that NEPA and other environmental laws and requirements and RUS environmental policies and procedures are satisfied prior to taking a federal action.

While RUS is authorized under REA to finance electric generation infrastructure in rural areas, it is the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), not RUS, who is responsible for electric grid planning. Supporting renewable energy projects meets both RUS's goal to support infrastructure development in rural communities and USDA's support of the June 2013 Climate Action Plan, which encourages voluntary actions to increase energy independence.

The Applicant's purpose and need for the Proposed Action is to develop a utility-scale solar facility in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, to replace load demand on local utilities, including Dairyland Power, resulting from coal-fired power plant closures or scheduled decommissioning.

## 4. Issues of Concern

In the EIS, the effects of the proposal are compared to the existing conditions in the affected area of the proposal. Issues of concern evaluated in the EIS include soils and geology, water resources, air quality, acoustic environment, biological resources, land resources, visual resources, transportation, cultural resources, site contamination public health and safety, socioeconomics, and environmental justice.

Badger State has submitted an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC). Consultations have been conducted with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and an endangered resource review (ER) has been submitted to the agency. Consultations with other agencies include the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Badger State has consulted property owners, local town and county officials and staff, state elected representatives, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection, and engaged the general public.

The USFWS concurred that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, whooping crane. The USFWS concurred that Project minimization measures during construction are expected to avoid or minimize disturbance to the whooping cranes and that minor loss of stopover and feeding habitat would not be likely to negatively impact the species. Additionally, the USFWS concurred that the Project is consistent with activities analyzed in the Programmatic Biological Opinion for the northern long-eared bat. Finally, the USFWS provided guidance on National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines and incidental take permits, recommendations for site selection and layout, and recommendations for project construction.

## 5. Alternatives To Be Considered

Potential locations for development of the solar facility in Wisconsin were evaluated in an initial preliminary site review to identify locations where electric transmission infrastructure would be sufficient to connect a solar project to the power grid. The Site Selection Study consisted of three phases of evaluation which began with 18 potential sites and ended with the identification of the proposed site in Jefferson County as the most feasible for consideration. The potential impacts of the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action, construction of the Badger State Solar project in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, are analyzed in detail.

## 6. Overview of the Scoping Process

RUS is using its procedures for public involvement under NEPA to meet its responsibilities to solicit and consider



the views of the public during Section 106 review. Accordingly, comments submitted in response to this Notice will inform RUS decision-making during Section 106 review. As noted in the **Federal Register** notice announcing the intent to prepare an EIS on October 5, 2021, the RUS invited any interested party wishing to participate directly with the agency as a “consulting party” in Section 106 review may submit a written request to the RUS contact provided below. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.3(f)(3), RUS will consider, and provide a timely response to, any and all requests for consulting party status.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the Badger State Solar EIS and to hold a virtual public scoping meeting was published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 2021, initiating the 30-day public scoping period. The NOI also announced a virtual public scoping meeting held on October 26. The NOI is provided in the Scoping Report. In addition to the NOI, a notice was published in the Daily Jefferson County Union and Watertown Daily Times newspapers published on October 6, 7, and 8, 2021.

The NOI and other project information (including the Alternative Evaluation and Site Selection Studies) was available for review on the RUS and Badger State Solar websites (<https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>) and also at the following locations (Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI; the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI).

RUS hosted the virtual public scoping meeting on October 26. RUS also hosted an interagency meeting on October 28. In addition to the public involvement process described above, Badger State Solar consulted with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and an endangered resource review has been submitted to the agency. Badger State Solar also consulted with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), property owners, local town and county officials and staff, state elected representatives, and Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection. RUS has initiated consultation with the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). RUS initiated informal consultation with the USFWS in a letter dated October 15,

2021. USFWS concurred with the finding that the Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect listed or proposed species or designated critical habitat in an email dated December 21, 2021. A summary of the scoping process and public input is provided in the Draft EIS.

#### 7. Decision Process

The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Following the 45-day review period, RUS will prepare a Final EIS. All comments received on the Draft EIS will be duly considered in preparing the Final EIS, which is expected to be available by August 2022. The availability of the Final EIS for public review will be announced in the **Federal Register** and the local newspapers used in previous public notices. After publication of the Final EIS a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency’s decision regarding Badger State Solar’s request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the ROD will be published in the **Federal Register** and in local newspapers.

Any final action by RUS related to the proposal will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant executive orders and federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations in addition to the completion of the environmental review requirements as prescribed in RUS Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR part 1970.

#### Christopher A. McLean,

Acting Administrator, Rural Utilities Service,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture.

[FR Doc. 2022–04203 Filed 2–28–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–15–P

### COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

#### Notice of Public Meeting of the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

**AGENCY:** U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

**ACTION:** Announcement of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a meeting on Friday April 8, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. Eastern time. The Committee will continue to discuss civil rights and fair housing in the state.

**DATES:** The meeting will take place on Friday April 8, 2022 from 12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m. Eastern time.

**Online Registration (Audio/Visual):**  
<https://bit.ly/3HPpBoV>.

**Telephone (Audio Only):** Dial 800–360–9505 USA Toll Free; Access code: 2761 149 6319.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Wojnarowski, DFO, at [mwojnarowski@usccr.gov](mailto:mwojnarowski@usccr.gov) or 312–353–8311.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Members of the public may listen to these discussions. Committee meetings are available to the public through the above listed online registration link or call in number. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Individuals who are deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and conference ID number.

Members of the public are also entitled to submit written comments; the comments must be received in the regional office within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be emailed to Corrine Sanders at [csanders@usccr.gov](mailto:csanders@usccr.gov). Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Unit at (312) 353–8311.

Records generated from this meeting may be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Unit Office, as they become available, both before and after the meeting. Records of the meeting will be available via [www.facadatabase.gov](http://www.facadatabase.gov) under the Commission on Civil Rights, Pennsylvania Advisory Committee link. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission’s website, <http://www.usccr.gov>, or may contact the Regional Programs Unit at the above email or street address.

#### Agenda

Welcome and Roll Call  
Discussion: Civil Rights and Fair Housing in Pennsylvania  
Future Plans and Actions  
Public Comment

BADGER STATE SOLAR VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

March 22, 2022

SPEAKING PANELISTS:

Ms. Carol Freeman, AECOM;

Mr. Peter Steinour, USDA RUS;

Ms. Emily Straka, Badger State Solar.

PANELISTS:

Mr. Larry Neal;

Ms. Regina Greer;

Ms. Roseanne Koneval;

Ms. Kursten Anderson.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S:

2 MS. FREEMAN: Hello, and welcome to the Badger  
3 State Solar Draft Environmental Impact Statement Virtual  
4 Public Meeting. We'll begin the meeting here in just a  
5 few moments.

6 Welcome to the virtual public meeting for the  
7 Badger State Solar Draft Environmental Impact Statement.  
8 My name is Carol Freeman. I'm the facilitator for  
9 today's meeting. The format for our meeting today is to  
10 begin with brief remarks from Rural Utilities Service,  
11 the federal agency responsible for conducting the  
12 environmental review. These remarks will be followed by  
13 a brief presentation and overview of the proposed  
14 action, information and findings for the draft EIS. And  
15 finally, we'll open the meeting to public comments.

16 Please note that this session is being  
17 recorded to maintain a record of the discussion and the  
18 comments received. Your participation in this call  
19 indicates your consent to be recorded.

20 (Recording in Progress.)

21 MS. FREEMAN: I will now turn this meeting  
22 over to Peter Steinour from USDA's Rural Utilities  
23 Service to provide a few opening remarks. Peter, the  
24 floor is yours.

25 MR. STEINOUR: Thank you, Carol. Good

1 evening, and thanks for joining us for the Badger State  
2 Solar Draft Environmental Impact Statement public  
3 meeting. My name is Peter Steinour, and I am an  
4 environmental protection specialist with the USDA Rural  
5 Utilities Service whose mission is to provide electric,  
6 telecommunication, water and waste treatment  
7 infrastructure, and infrastructure improvements in rural  
8 America. The goal for me tonight is to receive  
9 questions and comments on the scope, the alternatives,  
10 and significant issues evaluated in the draft  
11 Environmental Impact Statement to help inform the  
12 agency's decision-making.

13 So I'm going to turn it over now to Emily  
14 Straka, the project developer with Ranger Power for  
15 Badger State Solar Project who will give us a project  
16 overview presentation. Emily.

17 MS. STRAKA: Thanks, Peter. Carol, do you  
18 mind enabling the screen share?

19 MS. FREEMAN: Yes, go ahead and try it again,  
20 Emily.

21 MS. STRAKA: Okay. Can everyone see my  
22 screen?

23 MS. FREEMAN: Yes.

24 MS. STRAKA: Thank you very much, Peter and  
25 Carol. My name is Emily Straka. I'm the project

1 developer for Badger State Solar Project, and I work for  
2 Ranger Power. So Ranger Power is a company that  
3 specializes in utility scale solar development primarily  
4 working on projects for the midwest. We have projects  
5 either under construction or operating in Michigan,  
6 Illinois, Wisconsin, and have many other projects under  
7 development in various states as well. Really, we  
8 entered the market in 2017 because we saw an opportunity  
9 as there were several announcements of large currently  
10 operating electric generating facilities that were  
11 retiring and saw an opportunity to fill a gap with solar  
12 power.

13 So the Badger State Solar Project is a  
14 149-megawatt AC project located in the Town of Jefferson  
15 and Oakland in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The land  
16 cover is predominantly agricultural crops, there is  
17 mint, soybeans, and corn as well. The project would be  
18 located on approximately 1,200 acres out of 1,750 acres  
19 leased for the project. We really take an avoidance  
20 approach, you know, looking to avoid tree clearing and  
21 crossing wetlands. So that acreage gets -- gets  
22 partitioned down a bit.

23 We did receive our main discretionary permit  
24 on February 26th, 2020 from the Public Service  
25 Commission of Wisconsin, and we are continuing to

1 coordinate with other agencies, including Wisconsin  
2 Department of Transportation, the Town of  
3 Jefferson/Oakland, and Jefferson County as --  
4 (inaudible). We do have a power purchase agreement in  
5 place with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire  
6 output of the project. They're a co-op based out of La  
7 Crosse, Wisconsin.

8 So the certificate of public convenience and  
9 necessity, again, is the main discretionary permit for  
10 the project. That is issued by the Public Service  
11 Commission, and any electric generating facility over  
12 100 megawatts in the State of Wisconsin will be subject  
13 to this permit. The process is robust. You know, it  
14 took approximately two years from our pre-application  
15 meeting to the approval. And the process does include  
16 engineering plans, technical studies, such as  
17 geotechnical work, well inflammations, EMF reports, as  
18 well as technical hearings, public comment sessions with  
19 oral and written testimony. In September of 2019 the  
20 environmental assessment was issued as well, and then  
21 following that, the final written order was issued in  
22 February of 2020.

23 As a part of our permitting process, Ranger's  
24 approach is to engage with as many stakeholders as we  
25 can prior to entering the permitting process. So some



1 of these stakeholders include neighbors to the project,  
2 leadership from the Towns of Jefferson and Oakland as  
3 well as Jefferson County, the City of Jefferson, the  
4 City of Fort Atkinson, which are located near the  
5 project, and other stakeholders including the Jefferson  
6 City Chamber of Commerce and County Farm Bureau, local  
7 media to keep them apprised of our plans and the timing  
8 of construction, as well as statewide industry curves.

9 Pending developing work is really focused on  
10 permitting and title. As our design progresses, we are  
11 finalizing locations where we, you know, are required to  
12 cross well ends, which then we'll seek permits from the  
13 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the DNR, as well as  
14 Jefferson County and the drainage board, which are --  
15 the project is located within the local drainage  
16 district, so we have been coordinating with them on  
17 permitting that is required for that as well.

18 Title, so each of our participating landowners  
19 has title record, and so one of the things we do is look  
20 at the title and make sure that the project has all the  
21 necessary rights to proceed with the project.

22 With that, I will turn it over to Carol.

23 MS. FREEMAN: Thank you, Emily.

24 MS. STRAKA: Thank you.

25 MS. FREEMAN: As Emily mentioned, the Badger

1 State Solar Project will be located on a site near the  
2 townships of Jefferson and Oakland in Jefferson County,  
3 Wisconsin. The plan is to -- sorry, Badger State Solar  
4 proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a  
5 149-megawatt solar energy generating facility at this  
6 site. The proposed site is near the point of  
7 interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission  
8 Company Jefferson substation which is located near the  
9 intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S.  
10 Highway 18.

11 Badger State Solar's purpose for the proposed  
12 action is to develop a utility scaled solar facility at  
13 this location in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, with the  
14 intention to replace load demand on local utilities that  
15 are resulting from coal fire power plant closures or  
16 other scheduled decommissioning. The purpose of the  
17 project for USDA's Rural Utilities Service is connected  
18 to the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 as amended,  
19 which authorizes the secretary of agriculture to make  
20 rural electrification and telecommunication loans, and  
21 specifies eligible borrowers, references, purposes,  
22 terms and conditions, and security requirements for  
23 those loans. RUS is authorized to make loans and loan  
24 guarantees to finance the construction of electric  
25 distribution, transmission, and generation facilities

1 including system improvements and replacements required  
2 to furnish and improve electric service in rural areas.

3 It also helps with demand size management,  
4 electricity conservation programs, and on and off grid  
5 renewable electric systems. Badger State Solar has  
6 indicated the intention to request financing assistance  
7 from RUS; therefore, RUS's proposed federal action is to  
8 decide whether or not to provide financing assistance  
9 for the project. While RUS is authorized under the REA  
10 to finance -- REA is the Rural Electrification Act,  
11 while RUS is authorized under this act to finance  
12 electric generation infrastructure in rural areas, it is  
13 the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, otherwise  
14 known as MISO, M-I-S-O, not RUS, who is responsible for  
15 electric grid planning.

16 The proposed action is a key component of  
17 Dairyland Power's generating capacity projection for  
18 both the MISO -- MISO resource adequacy requirements and  
19 the Minnesota and Wisconsin renewable energy  
20 requirements. The proposed action will allow Dairyland  
21 Power to simultaneously meet its generating capacity  
22 needs and its sustainability goals.

23 The National Environmental Policy Act, also  
24 known as NEPA, requires federal agencies to identify and  
25 analyze the potential environmental affects of proposed

1 federal actions and alternatives before those actions  
2 take place. NEPA's intent is to protect, restore, or  
3 enhance the environment through well-informed federal  
4 decisions.

5 The United States Department of Agriculture's  
6 Rural Utilities Service, RUS, has prepared an  
7 Environmental Impact Statement to meet its  
8 responsibilities under NEPA. That is what we are here  
9 to discuss tonight. The draft EIS evaluates two project  
10 alternatives: The no-action alternative under which RUS  
11 would not provide funding for the Badger State Solar  
12 Project, and the proposed action where RUS would provide  
13 funding for the project.

14 And as you can see on the screen, the project  
15 would involve the installation of photovoltaic panels on  
16 the project site. The site would be fenced. There  
17 would be an electric substation on the site. There  
18 would be internal site access roads. The lease  
19 agreement for the project would allow for an operating  
20 period of 40 years. And a power purchase agreement has  
21 been executed between the project and Dairy Power  
22 Cooperative for the output of the project.

23 Other siting alternatives were considered and  
24 eliminated from consideration during the development of  
25 the EIS. The site selection process took place in three

1 phases: Under Phase 1 there were 18 potential sites  
2 that were examined. These sites were located near  
3 existing electrical substations. Ten of those sites  
4 were eliminated because of their remote location or due  
5 to land constraints. The remaining eight sites were  
6 evaluated throughout the screening process. Eight  
7 feasible sites were carried forward and screened for  
8 significant development constraints including land use,  
9 potential host landowners, environmental constraints,  
10 cultural and historic resource constraints, community  
11 acceptance, constructability, and road infrastructure.

12 In Phase 2, four of those eight sites were  
13 eliminated based on significant constraints related to  
14 land use, environmental concerns, cultural or historic  
15 resources, nearby residential communities, and the  
16 existing substation interconnection point.

17 In Phase 3 the remaining four sites were  
18 evaluated. Through that evaluation, the proposed  
19 project site located in Jefferson County was identified  
20 as the preferred development site due to low residential  
21 density and development, adequate development acreage  
22 located outside of wetlands and flood plains, suitable  
23 existing interconnection points, the substation, and the  
24 regional solar resources in the area, as well as the  
25 proximity to major electric load centers.

1           The EIS analysis determined that there would  
2 no significant adverse impacts on environmental  
3 resources. There would be adverse impacts on  
4 groundwater, wetlands, cultural resources -- sorry, let  
5 me start that over. Adverse impacts on groundwater,  
6 wetlands, cultural resources, and environmental justice  
7 communities are not expected, so no impacts to those  
8 resources. Adverse impacts on other environmental  
9 resources would be minor and temporary generally related  
10 to the construction and decommissioning activities.

11           The graph shown here on the screen breaks down  
12 the environmental resources that were evaluated and  
13 compares them under the no-action alternative and the  
14 proposed action for both construction and operations.  
15 Those resources with minor impacts -- minor adverse  
16 impacts include soils, geology, surface water, air  
17 quality, primarily due to dust, noise, which would be  
18 negligible during operations, wildlife and aquatic  
19 resources, land resources due to the change in land use  
20 from agriculture to use as a solar facility,  
21 transportation, visual resources, and public health and  
22 safety.

23           Threatening endangered species might be  
24 temporarily affected if those species are present in the  
25 area, but it is not likely to be adversely affected.



1 Socioeconomic impacts are expected to be small,  
2 positive, and long-term.

3 So today's call is being held during the  
4 45-day public comment period for the Badger State Solar  
5 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The draft EIS and  
6 related documents are posted for public review and  
7 download on the virtual open house website.

8 Project-related information is also available at --  
9 Kursten, if you could go to the next slide for me -- at  
10 these websites shown on this screen here, the RUS and  
11 Badger State Solar websites.

12 Project information is also available at the  
13 Jefferson County Public Library in Jefferson, Wisconsin,  
14 the Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, Wisconsin,  
15 and the Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, Wisconsin.  
16 The public comment period did begin on March 4th of this  
17 year, and it will end on April 18th of 2022. Rural  
18 Utilities Service will be reviewing all comments and  
19 questions received during the 45-day scoping period.  
20 Substantive comments will be addressed in the final EIS  
21 which is expected to be issued in mid- to late-2022.

22 The selected alternatives for the Badger State  
23 Solar Project will be memorialized, and a record of  
24 decision, or ROD, which will be issued following the  
25 final EIS.

1 I will now review the meeting format, and  
2 Kursten, you can go back to the previous slide. To  
3 remind everyone, this call is being recorded via Zoom  
4 and a court reporter to maintain a record of the  
5 discussion and of the comments and questions received  
6 during the meeting. Your participation in this call  
7 indicates your consent to be recorded. Although we will  
8 be taking comments and questions from audience members  
9 during today's call, we will not be responding directly  
10 to the questions and comments at this time. The  
11 comments and questions will be addressed in the final  
12 EIS which is expected later this year.

13 The procedures for providing a comment or  
14 question during this meeting are as follows: At present  
15 all callers are muted, each caller will be addressed by  
16 name in the order they registered for the meeting. You  
17 will be unmuted for three minutes to state your comment  
18 or question. I will give a 30-second warning before the  
19 time ends. When called, please state your name and  
20 affiliation, if any. If you do not wish to be -- if you  
21 do not wish to comment when your name is called, just  
22 please respond, "no comment at this time."

23 If you do not comment during today's call or  
24 if you wish to submit additional comments later, you may  
25 use the information on the screen to provide those

1           comments. You can submit comments via e-mail to  
2           BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov, or via regular mail to the  
3           address on the screen. You may also visit the project  
4           websites to see additional information, again, about the  
5           project and on ways to comment. We do encourage  
6           comments to be submitted electronically. And as a  
7           reminder, the comment period ends on April 18th, 2022.

8                       We will now open the meeting for any comments  
9           at this time. Is there anyone present? We did not have  
10          anyone who registered to make comments prior to the  
11          meeting. If anyone who is present, would you like to  
12          make a comment at this time? If so, please free to use  
13          the "raise your hand" feature at the bottom of your  
14          screen, or to type your name into the "chat" or "Q and  
15          A" box.

16                      I am not seeing any comments at this time. We  
17          will remain available to hear and accept any comments  
18          that do come up. If at any point in time you do wish to  
19          make a comment, again, please just use the "raise your  
20          hand" feature, or type a comment into the "chat" or "Q  
21          and A" box at the bottom of the screen. There do not  
22          appear to be any comments at this time, so we'll wait a  
23          few moments. We will remain available.

24                      I am going to turn off my video for the  
25          moment, but I will continue to watch the screen for

1 anyone to either raise their hand, or type in a "chat"  
2 or a "Q and A," and we will accept those comments.

3 At this time we have no members of the public  
4 present in the meeting, and I am going to stop the  
5 recording.

6 (Recording stopped.)

7 MS. FREEMAN: At this time, as there are no  
8 additional comments and no additional attendees, we are  
9 going to go ahead and wrap up the meeting. We would  
10 like to thank those that did attend for their interest  
11 in the Badger State Solar Project and participation in  
12 today's call. And as a reminder for the record,  
13 comments will be accepted until April 18th, 2022. This  
14 concludes tonight's call.

15 Everyone have a good night. Thank you.

16 (The proceedings concluded at 6:36 p.m.)  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

1 STATE OF WISCONSIN )  
2 ) SS:  
3 COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE )

4  
5 I, LEAH R. MILLER, a Notary Public in  
6 and for the State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that  
7 the above meeting of the Badger State Solar Project, was  
8 recorded by me via Zoom on March 22, 2022, and reduced  
9 to writing under my personal direction.

10 I further certify that I am not a  
11 relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of  
12 the parties, or financially interested directly or  
13 indirectly in this action.

14 In witness whereof I have hereunder  
15 set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Milwaukee,  
16 Wisconsin, this 8th day of April, 2022.

17  
18  
19  
20  
21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 Notary Public  
23 In and for the State of Wisconsin

24 My Commission Expires: August 7, 2022.  
25

**Welcome**  
to the

**Badger State  
Solar  
Environmental  
Impact  
Statement**

**Virtual Public  
Meeting**

March 4 – April 18,  
2022

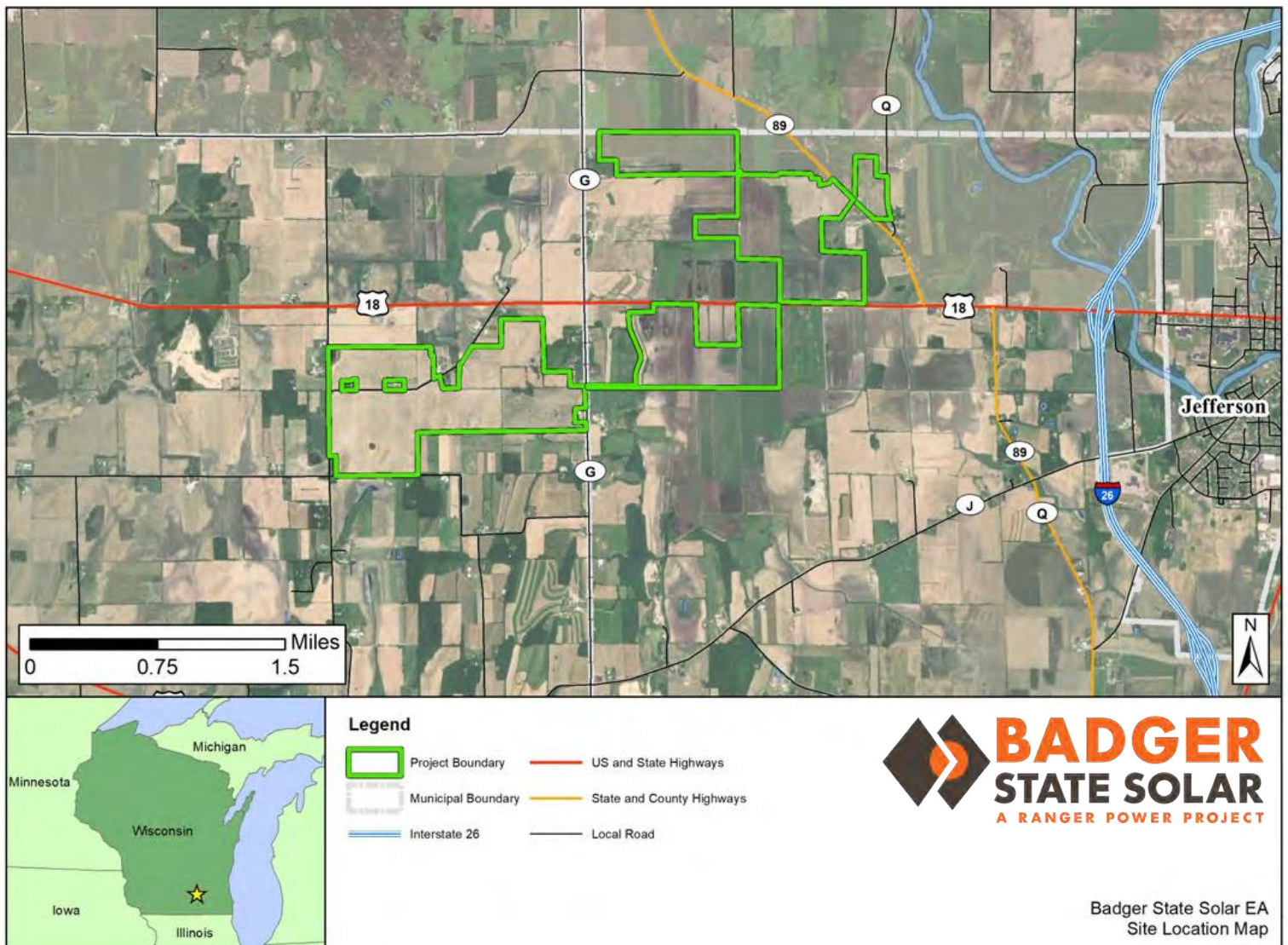


# Project Location

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149-MW PV solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin.

The proposed site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S. Highway 18.

A power purchase agreement has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years.



---

# Project Description and Alternatives

The proposed project would include:

- Installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels mounted on a steel racking frame. The site would be fenced.
- Electrical substation.
- Internal site access roads.
- The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.
- The proposed site is near the point of interconnection to the grid at the American Transmission Company Jefferson substation near the intersection of State Trunk Highway 89 and U.S. Highway 18.

The EIS evaluates two project alternatives:

- **No-Action Alternative:** RUS would not fund the Badger State Solar project
- **Proposed Action:** RUS would provide funding for the Badger State Solar project. The project would offset the loss of generated power from coal-fired power plant closures with renewable solar generated power that would contribute to Dairyland Power's Sustainable Generation Plan goals of reducing carbon dioxide intensity rate and increasing renewable power generation.

Other siting alternatives were considered and eliminated from consideration.



---

# Project Purpose and Need

The Applicant's purpose of the proposed action is to develop a utility-scale solar facility in Jefferson County, Wisconsin, to replace load demand on local utilities resulting from coal-fired power plant closures or scheduled decommissioning.

## Purpose and Need for Agency Action

The Rural Electrification Act (REA) of 1936, as amended (7 USC 901 et seq.) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to make rural electrification and telecommunication loans, and specifies eligible borrowers, references, purposes, terms and conditions, and security requirements. RUS is authorized to make loans and loan guarantees to finance the construction of electric distribution, transmission, and generation facilities, including system improvements and replacements required to furnish and improve electric service in rural areas, as well as demand-side management, electricity conservation programs, and on- and off-grid renewable electricity systems.

The Applicant has indicated the intention to request financing assistance from RUS. RUS's proposed federal action is to decide whether or not to provide financing assistance for the Project.

While RUS is authorized under REA to finance electric generation infrastructure in rural areas, it is the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), not RUS, who is responsible for electric grid planning. The Proposed Action is a key component of Dairyland Power's generating capacity projection for both the MISO Resource Adequacy requirements and the Minnesota and Wisconsin renewable energy requirements. The Proposed Action will allow Dairyland Power to simultaneously meet its generating capacity needs and its sustainability goals.





# Anticipated Environmental Impacts

Environmental Resource	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
<b>Soils and Geology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over time, with continued agricultural use, soils could erode and soil nutrients could be depleted resulting in minor impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor, short-term, direct soil impacts during ground-disturbing construction and decommissioning, minimized by use of best management practices (BMPs) and implementation of the site-specific Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).</li> <li>Minor, long-term, direct impacts to geology during installation of the foundation piles, and to soils during operational maintenance activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Water Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indirect impacts to groundwater resources could result due to the continuing use of the Project site for agriculture. Fertilizers and pesticides may impact groundwater, erosion and sedimentation could also alter runoff patterns.</li> <li>Surface water quality may degrade further due to runoff from agricultural activity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No adverse impacts to groundwater during construction or decommissioning.</li> <li>Minor, direct, long-term impacts to groundwater during operations from an onsite well.</li> <li>Change in primary land use from agricultural to maintained perennial ground cover could result in a minor, beneficial indirect impact to groundwater.</li> <li>Short-term, minor surface water quality from potential erosion and minimal amounts of hazardous waste generated during construction. Soil stabilization and vegetation management measures would reduce the potential for erosion impacts during operation. Potential long-term indirect beneficial impacts could result from the reduction in agricultural activity at the site.</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There would be no direct or indirect impacts to air quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor mobilization of dust and generation of exhaust during construction and decommissioning and operational activities.</li> <li>There would be a beneficial effect on air quality and climate change with respect to reduced greenhouse gas emissions as compared to fossil fuel power generation.</li> </ul>
<b>Acoustic Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noise condition would remain the same as the existing condition resulting in no direct or indirect impacts to acoustic environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction and decommissioning activities would result in short-term, minor noise.</li> <li>Operational activities would result in negligible long-term noise impacts.</li> </ul>
<b>Land Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No impacts would be anticipated as the site would be expected to continue to be utilized for agriculture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor, direct, long-term adverse impact on land use. Decommissioning could allow most of the Project site to be returned to agricultural or other uses.</li> </ul>
<b>Visual Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There would be no impacts from continued agricultural use. Existing views would be expected to remain unchanged.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor temporary direct and indirect impacts to visual resources during the construction and decommissioning. During operation, minor visual impacts would continue to occur in the immediate vicinity due to the changes to the visual attributes of the area and the existing general local character.</li> </ul>

# Anticipated Environmental Impacts (Continued)

Environmental Resource	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
<b>Biological Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vegetation, wetland and riparian resources would remain as they are at present.</li> <li>Wildlife utilization of the agricultural fields would continue.</li> <li>Indirect impacts to fisheries and aquatic resources could result due to the continuing use of the area as agricultural land.</li> <li>No impacts to special status species would be expected to occur.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some localized clearing along fence-lines and small wooded areas. Larger forested areas would be avoided. After construction, surrounding area would be seeded with appropriate herbaceous seed mix of native species.</li> <li>No permanent wetland impacts anticipated. Ten wetlands would be temporarily impacted during construction and facility decommissioning.</li> <li>No significant direct or indirect impacts to riparian areas or floodplains from construction, operation or decommissioning.</li> <li>Direct impacts on wildlife would be minor.</li> <li>Minor construction and decommissioning-related impacts on fisheries and aquatic resources given the relatively small extent, size, and number of the waterways potentially affected. Adverse impacts during operations not expected.</li> <li>Construction, operation, and decommissioning may directly or indirectly affect special status species, if present. Adverse effects are expected to be undetectable, not measurable, or extremely unlikely to occur, and implementation of the Proposed Action would not jeopardize the continued existence of these species. No impacts to designated critical habitats.</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No impacts from continued agricultural use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No unreasonable congestion or unsafe conditions with respect to transportation on public roads.</li> <li>Minor, short-term, direct impacts associated with construction and decommissioning. Negligible impacts on local roadways from increased traffic during operations.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor impacts to cultural resources from continued agricultural use would be expected.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None of the identified archaeological resources within the Area of Potential Effect are recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. RUS recommends there is no adverse effect on NRHP-eligible historical structures. SHPO and tribal consultation is in progress.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Health and Safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health and safety issues and hazardous materials and waste management would remain in their current state.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor and temporary impacts to human health and safety related to construction and decommissioning.</li> <li>No human health or safety hazards would be anticipated during operations.</li> <li>Processes for hazardous materials and waste management would be in place during construction, operation, and decommissioning.</li> </ul>
<b>Socioeconomics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Socioeconomic impacts would remain in their current state.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Socioeconomic impacts for the operation of the Project are anticipated to be positive and long-term, although small relative to the total economy of the region.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Justice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No identified minority or low-income populations within the site or vicinity, therefore, no impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No minority or low-income populations have been identified in Jefferson County; therefore, there would be no disproportionate impacts to environmental justice communities.</li> </ul>



# Public Involvement

Public participation is an integral component of the environmental review process for federal actions. Public participation is especially important during the public comment period of the proposed Project. RUS is seeking information, comments, and assistance from federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other individuals who may be interested in or affected by the proposed Project.

Comments submitted during the public comment period should be in writing. The comments should describe as clearly and completely as possible any issues, concerns, or input commenters may have so that they can be addressed appropriately in the Final EIS.

**Comments are encouraged and must be received or postmarked no later than April 18, 2022.**

Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the project administrative record and will be available for public inspection.

To request consulting party status, submit comments, or for further information, please email:

[BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov)

Or submit mail to:

United States Department of Agriculture  
Attention: Peter Steinour, Mail Stop 1570  
Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20250

***Electronic submittals are encouraged.***

# Officials: 7 dead after tornadoes tore through central Iowa

By SCOTT MCFETRIDGE and JOSH FUNK  
Associated Press

WINTERSET, Iowa (AP) — Seven people were killed, including two children, when several tornadoes swept through central Iowa, destroying homes and knocking down trees and power lines in the state's deadliest storm in more than a decade, authorities said.

Emergency management officials in Madison County said four were injured and six people were killed Saturday when one tornado touched down in the area southwest of Des Moines near the town of Winterset around 4:30 p.m. Among those killed were two children under the age of five and four adults.

In Lucas County, about 54 miles (87 kilometers) southeast of Des Moines, officials confirmed one death and multiple reported injuries when a separate tornado struck less than an hour later.

The state Department of Natural Resources said that person who died was in an RV at a campground at Red Haw State Park in Chariton, Iowa.

Thunderstorms that spawned tornadoes moved through much of Iowa from the afternoon until Saturday night, with storms also causing damage in the Des Moines suburb of Norwalk, areas just east of Des Moines and other areas of eastern Iowa. The storms were fueled by warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico.

Officials reported a number of homes were damaged or destroyed, roads were blocked by downed lines and tree branches were shredded by the strong winds. At one point, power outages affected more than 10,000 in the Des Moines area. About



Cleanup efforts are underway in Winterset, Iowa, on Sunday, March 6, after a tornado tore through an area southwest of town on Saturday.

800 customers remained without power Sunday evening.

The storms are the deadliest to occur in Iowa since May 2008 when one tornado destroyed nearly 300 homes and killed nine people in the northern Iowa city of Parkersburg. Another tornado a month later killed four boys at the Little Sioux Boy Scout ranch in western Iowa.

Northern Illinois University meteorology professor Victor Gensini said there have been plenty of examples of deadly storms in March even though they are more common in April and May. Saturday's storms were not nearly as unusual as the mid-December tornado outbreak

that Iowa saw last year, he said.

"The storms that produce these tornadoes — these supercell storms — they don't care what the calendar says," Gensini said. "It doesn't have to say June. It doesn't have to say May. They form whenever the ingredients are present. And they were certainly present yesterday."

Scientists have said that extreme weather events and warmer temperatures are more likely to occur with human-caused climate change. However, scientifically attributing a storm system to global warming requires specific analysis and computer simulations that take time, haven't been done and

sometimes show no clear connection.

Gensini said Saturday's storms likely caused more than \$1 billion in damages over their entire track when the severe damage in Iowa is combined with wind damage as far away as Illinois.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds issued a disaster proclamation for Madison County, which allows state resources to be used to assist with response and recovery efforts. Madison County Emergency Management Director Diogenes Ayala said 52 homes were damaged or destroyed across nearly 14 miles.

The White House said President Joe Biden was briefed

Sunday on the storm devastation in Iowa. Biden reached out Reynolds and directed the leaders of the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency to remain in close contact with state and local officials as they assessed damage and determined what federal assistance was needed, the White House said in a statement.

After touring the storm damage near Winterset, Reynolds described "unimaginable destruction."

Reynolds teared up as she described the hundreds of people who streamed into the area to volunteer their help to clear debris that blocked roads and littered the hardest hit areas. Homeowners and volunteers were picking up wood debris and beginning to clear it away Sunday in the rolling hills south of Winterset as chainsaws whirred away in the background.

"It's just unbelievable. I tried to walk through and thank them and over and over (and) the response was, we're Iowans and that's what we do," she said.

The foundation was all that was left of several homes. The tornado carved a path of destruction along a ridge while several hundred feet away other homes were undamaged.

Ayala said emergency responders navigated narrow roads blocked by downed trees and debris Saturday night to help after the storm.

"With trees and debris and everything around, just to go out there and start the search and rescue and get the people affected out of there, I cannot express the heroism of the first responders who were out there last night," Ayala said.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Virtual Public Meeting for Badger State Solar, LLC Alternating Current Project

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC, for public review and comment. RUS published the Draft DEIS on March 4, 2022, to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft DEIS. The Draft DEIS was prepared and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of two alternatives – the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project.

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, west of the City of Jefferson, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.

Badger State Solar has indicated the intention to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the DEIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the DEIS.

The Draft DEIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Comments received will be duly considered in the preparation of the Final DEIS which is expected to be available in mid-to-late-2022. The Final DEIS will be published and available for public review, and a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency's decision regarding Badger State Solar's request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the Final DEIS and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft DEIS must be postmarked or received online on or before April 18, 2022. Comments submitted after April 18, 2022 may not be considered by the agency. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft DEIS will be held in a virtual format on March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm central via Zoom.

**REGISTRATION:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. Details on how to access the webinar will be sent via email after registering. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the webinar. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Comments can also be submitted through the virtual public meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Draft DEIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at <https://www.rus.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Hardcopies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI, and Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**CONTACT:** Comments, requests for consulting party status, requests for hard or electronic copies of the DEIS, or requests for additional information can be submitted by email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

or by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steiner, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic communication is preferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To be considered, comments must be submitted by April 18, 2022. Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record, and may be made publicly available at any time.

## Russian war in world's 'breadbasket' threatens food supply

By JOSEPH WILSON, SAMY MAGDY, AYA BATRAWY and CHINEDU ASADU  
Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — The Russian tanks and missiles besieging Ukraine also are threatening the food supply and livelihoods of people in Europe, Africa and Asia who rely on the vast, fertile farmlands of the Black Sea region — known as the "breadbasket of the world."

Ukrainian farmers have been forced to neglect their fields as millions flee, fight or try to stay alive. Ports are shut down that send wheat and other food staples worldwide to be made into bread, noodles and animal feed. And there are worries Russia, another agricultural powerhouse, could have its grain exports upended by Western sanctions.

While there have not yet been global disruptions to wheat supplies, prices have surged 55% since a week before the invasion amid concerns about what could happen next. If the war is prolonged, countries that rely on affordable wheat exports from Ukraine could face shortages starting in July, International Grains Council director Arnaud Petit told The Associated Press.

That could create food

insecurity and throw more people into poverty in places like Egypt and Lebanon, where diets are dominated by government-subsidized bread. In Europe, officials are preparing for potential shortages of products from Ukraine and increased prices for livestock feed that could mean more expensive meat and dairy if farmers are forced to pass along costs to customers.

Russia and Ukraine combine for nearly a third of the world's wheat and barley exports. Ukraine also is a major supplier of sunflower oil, used in food processing. The war could reduce food supplies just when prices are at their highest levels since 2011.

A prolonged conflict would have a big impact some 1,500 miles (2,400 kilometers) away in Egypt, the world's largest wheat importer. Millions rely on subsidized bread made from Ukrainian grains to survive, with about a third of people living in poverty.

"Wars mean shortages, and shortages mean (price) hikes," Ahmed Salah, a 47-year-old father of seven, said in Cairo. "Any hikes will be catastrophic not only for me, but for the majority of the people."

Anna Nagurney, a

professor of supply chains, logistics and economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, said, "Wheat, corn, oils, barley, flour are extremely important to food security... especially in the poorer parts of the globe."

With Ukrainian men being called on to fight, she said, "Who's going to be doing the harvesting? Who'd be doing the transportation?" Egypt's state procurer of wheat, which normally buys heavily from Russia and Ukraine, had to cancel two orders in less than a week: one for overpricing, the other because a lack of companies offered to sell their supplies. Sharp spikes in the cost of wheat globally could severely affect Egypt's ability to keep bread prices at their current subsidized level.

"Bread is extremely heavily subsidized in Egypt, and successive governments have found that cuts to those subsidies are the one straw that should be kept off the camel's back at all costs," Mirette Mabrouk, a senior fellow at the Middle East Institute, wrote in a recent analysis.

War-ravaged Syria recently announced it would cut spending and ration staples. In nearby Lebanon, where a massive explosion at the Beirut port in 2020 destroyed the country's main grain silos, authorities are scrambling to make up for a predicted wheat shortage, with Ukraine providing 60% of its supply. They are in talks with the U.S., India and Canada to find other sources for a country already in financial meltdown.

Even before the war threatened to affect wheat supplies in sub-Saharan Africa, people in Kenya were demanding "lower-food prices on social media as inflation eroded their spending power. Now, they're bracing for worse."

## WHAT CAN DENTAL IMPLANTS DO FOR YOU?

Cosmetic/Implant consults

No Interest payment plans



184 W. Plymouth St., Jefferson (920) 674-9567 • [www.smilesbyturley.com](http://www.smilesbyturley.com)

• We guarantee this will be your best dental visit Ever...or it's FREE •



# 1 dead, 2 wounded in shooting outside Iowa high school

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — One person was killed and two others were critically wounded Monday after gunfire that appeared to come from a passing vehicle struck them outside an Iowa school, authorities said.

Des Moines police said in a news release that potential suspects have been detained in the shooting on the grounds of East High School, near Des Moines' downtown, about a half mile, from the Capitol. No charges were immediately filed.

Sgt. Paul Parizek told KCCI-TV that calls started pouring in around 2:50 p.m., shortly before classes were scheduled to dismiss for the day.

The district said in a news release that the school was immediately put into lockdown and students were kept inside while police investigated. They were dismissed around 3:30 p.m. after law enforcement gave an all clear.

Principal Jill Versteeg described what happened as "everyone's worst nightmare" and urged parents to "hug your students and love them."

The district said there would be no classes Tuesday and that it was postponing the ACT and parent-teacher conferences.

The district also was making grief counselors available.

Superintendent Thomas Ahart said school shootings have "become too common" and said that "real change to gun laws and access would go a long way to help us."

"Our staff and students," he said, "are forced to train for these incidents and the trauma associated with the repeated drills and incidents will remain with them for years to come. It's unfortunate that our state and our country have become a place where firearms are far too easily accessible."

Parizek said he didn't know whether the victims, who all appeared to be teenagers, were students. Their names weren't immediately released.

Police said they do not believe there is a continued threat to the public.

A motive was not immediately known, and Parizek provided no details on the potential suspects. Authorities have recovered shell casings from the scene as they investigate what happened.

"Obviously, we threw every resource we had at this. We know that the kids in that school are our community's most precious cargo."

# Crisis deepens, Ukraine accuses Moscow of 'medieval' tactics

By YURAS KARMANAU  
Associated Press

LVIU, Ukraine (AP) — The humanitarian crisis in Ukraine deepened Monday as Russian forces intensified their shelling and food, water, heat and medicine grew increasingly scarce, in what the country condemned as a medieval-style siege by Moscow to batter it into submission.

A third round of talks between the two sides ended with a top Ukrainian official saying there had been minor, unspecified progress toward establishing safe corridors that would allow civilians to escape the fighting. Russia's chief negotiator said he expects those corridors to start operating Tuesday.

But that remained to be seen, given the failure of previous attempts to lead civilians to safety amid the deep ground war in Europe since World War II.

Well into the second week of the invasion, with Russian troops making significant advances in southern Ukraine but stalled in some other regions, a top U.S. official said multiple countries were discussing whether to provide the warplanes that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has been pleading for.



Ukrainian police officers help a woman fleeing as the artillery echoes nearby in Irpin, in the outskirts of Kyiv, Ukraine, Monday, March 7.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's forces continued to pummel cities with rockets, and fierce fighting raged in places.

In one of the most desperate cities, the encircled southern port of Mariupol, an estimated 200,000 people — nearly half the population of 430,000 — were hoping to flee, and Red Cross officials waited to hear when a corridor would be established.

The city is short on water, food and power, and cellphone networks are down. Stores have been looted as residents search for essential goods.

Police moved through the city, advising people to remain in shelters until they heard official messages broadcast over loudspeakers to evacuate.

Hospitals in Mariupol are facing severe shortages of antibiotics and painkillers, and doctors performed some emergency procedures without them.

The lack of phone service left anxious citizens approaching strangers to ask if they knew relatives living in other parts of the city and whether they were safe.

In the capital, Kyiv, soldiers and volunteers have built hundreds of checkpoints to protect the city of nearly 4 million, often using sandbags, stacked tires and spiked cables. Some barricades looked significant, with heavy concrete slabs and sandbags piled more than two stories high, while others appeared more haphazard,

with hundreds of books used to weigh down stacks of tires.

"Every house, every street, every checkpoint, we will fight to the death if necessary," said Mayor Vitali Klitschko.

In Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, with 1.4 million people, heavy shelling slammed into apartment buildings.

"I think it struck the fourth floor under us," Dmitry Sedorenko said from his Kharkiv hospital bed. "Immediately, everything started burning and falling apart." When the floor collapsed beneath him, he crawled out through the third story, past the bodies of some of his neighbors.

Klitschko reported that fierce battles continued in the Kyiv region, notably around Bucha, Hostomel, Vorzel and Irpin.

In the Irpin area, which has been cut off from electricity, water and heat for three days, witnesses saw at least three tanks and said Russian soldiers were seizing houses and cars.

A few miles away, in the small town of Horenka, where shelling reduced one area to ashes and shards of glass, rescuers and residents picked through the ruins as chickens pecked around them.

"What are they doing?" rescue worker Vasyi Oksak asked of the Russian attackers. "There were two little kids and two elderly people living here. Come in and see what they have done."

In the south, Russian

forces also continued their offensive in Mykolaiv, opening fire on the Black Sea shipbuilding center of a half-million people, according to Ukraine's military. Rescuers said they were putting out fires caused by rocket attacks in residential areas.

At The Hague, Netherlands, Ukraine pleaded with the International Court of Justice to order a halt to Russia's invasion, saying Moscow is committing widespread war crimes.

Russia "is resorting to tactics reminiscent of medieval siege warfare, encircling cities, cutting off escape routes and pounding the civilian population with heavy ordnance," said Jonathan Gimblett, a member of Ukraine's legal team.

Russia snubbed the court proceedings, leaving its seats in the Great Hall of Justice empty.

Efforts to set up safe passage for civilians over the weekend fell apart amid continued Russian shelling. Before Monday's talks began, Russia announced a new plan, saying civilians would be allowed to leave Kyiv, Mariupol, Kharkiv and Sumy.

Later, Russia's U.N. Ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, told the U.N. Security Council that Russia would carry out a ceasefire Tuesday morning and open humanitarian corridors leading away from Kyiv, Mariupol, Sumy and Chernigov.

Zelenskyy expressed skepticism about the sincerity of the gestures, asserting in his daily video address that instead of an agreement on humanitarian corridors, what Ukraine got on Monday was "Russian tanks, Russian Grad rockets, Russian mines."

Many of the evacuation routes headed toward Russia or its ally Belarus, which has served as a launch pad for the invasion. Ukraine instead proposed eight routes allowing civilians to travel to western regions of the country where there is no shelling.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Virtual Public Meeting for Badger State Solar, LLC Alternating Current Project

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC, for public review and comment. RUS published the Draft EIS on March 4, 2022, to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS was prepared and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of two alternatives — the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project).

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, west of the City of Jefferson, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.

Badger State Solar has indicated the intention to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the EIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Comments received will be duly considered in the preparation of the Final EIS which is expected to be available in mid- to late-2022. The Final EIS will be published and available for public review, and a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency's decision regarding Badger State Solar's request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the Final EIS and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft EIS must be postmarked or received online on or before April 18, 2022. Comments submitted after April 18, 2022 may not be considered by the agency. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft EIS will be held in a virtual format on March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm central via Zoom.

**REGISTRATION:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. Details on how to access the webinar will be sent via email after registering. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the webinar. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Comments can also be submitted through the virtual public meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at: <https://www.rus.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Hardcopies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI, and Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**CONTACT:** Comments, requests for consulting party status, requests for hard or electronic copies of the EIS, or requests for additional information can be submitted by email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

or by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steinhour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic communication is preferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To be considered, comments must be submitted by April 18, 2022. Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record, and may be made publicly available at any time.

Join Us for our

# 43rd ANNIVERSARY SALE

Saturday, March 12 - Saturday, March 19

## 30% OFF

Everything in the Store\*

\*Excludes wine, wire service, delivery and custom design. All sales cash and carry.

**Humphrey**  
Floral & Gift

201 S. Main, Fort Atkinson  
(920) 563-9231  
Open Mon - Fri 8:30 - 5:30  
Sat 'til 3 pm

# Bond set at \$25,000 for Horicon man

By Ed Zagorski  
Adams Publishing Group

JUNEAU — A 47-year-old Horicon man was placed on a \$25,000 cash bond Monday in Dodge County Circuit Court for multiple charges including vehicular homicide following a June crash in the Town of Oak Grove, where he allegedly fell asleep, drove across the center line and crashed into an oncoming car, killing a 50-year-old Lake Mills female driver.



Bryfczynski

Daniel Bryfczynski faces additional felony charges of injury by use of a vehicle while under the influence of a controlled substance, causing injury while operating a motor vehicle under the influence of a controlled substance and his second offense of possession of marijuana. He also faces two misdemeanor charges of possession of drug paraphernalia.

He could face up to 62 years in prison on all the charges.

Bryfczynski appeared Monday before Dodge

County Court Commissioner Steven Seim, who set several conditions for the bond.

Bryfczynski may not use or possess any controlled substances without a valid prescription or be in the presence of anyone who does. He must maintain absolute sobriety and can not go on the premises of any establishment whose primary business involves the sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages. He may not operate a motor vehicle without the permission of the court.

According to the criminal complaint, Bryfczynski reportedly admitted to smoking marijuana earlier in the day while fishing. He allegedly told investigators that the effects of the drug had worn off before getting his boat out of the water and eventually heading home in his truck.

Police searched Bryfczynski's boat and found a grinder, which typically is used with marijuana, and 4.5 grams of marijuana in a plastic bag on the boat.

He also admitted to

police officers that he fell asleep behind the wheel of his F150 truck before he drove across the centerline on Highway 33 and collided with a west-bound Buick sedan.

A blood test revealed he was driving with ketamine, marijuana, cocaine and opiates in his system, the complaint stated.

Ketamine is a medication primarily used for induction and maintenance of anesthesia. It induces a trance-like state providing pain relief, sedation and amnesia.

A Lake Mills juvenile, who was a passenger in the sedan, sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported to Children's Hospital in Madison via LifeNet Air Methods.

Bryfczynski was flown to Aurora Summit Hospital in Oconomowoc by a Flight for Life helicopter. A 44-year-old passenger in the truck was taken to Marshfield Medical Center in Beaver Dam with minor injuries.

Bryfczynski was convicted of an OWI in 2004.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Bryfczynski April 14 in Dodge County Circuit Court.

## E-SPORTS TO STATE



Pam Chickering Wilson

Jefferson High School's E-Sports team again has qualified for state, with several students receiving individual honors. The group, represented here by members Ashton Krenning, left, and Brody Bredelow, right, flanking coach Cory Klecker, was honored by the School District of Jefferson Board of Education at its recent meeting. State qualifiers included the Super Smash Bros. Ultimate team, made up of Bredlow, Jahson Granado-Malone, Krenning, Hawk Blackledge and Hunter Dow; and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate individual competitors Brody Bredlow, Jahson Granado-Malone, Ashton Krenning and Hunter Dow. Receiving All-Conference honors was Ashton Krenning, and receiving All-State honors was Rylan Leuaxay.

## Ball receives high honors at JHS

JEFFERSON — In a recent Jefferson High School honor roll article in the Daily Union, one student's name inadvertently was left out.

Julia Ball, a senior, received high honors.

Hers was the first name listed on the information provided by the school, and an incomplete copy-and-paste missed that corner of the list, causing the unintentional omission.

## First female lieutenant governor of Wisconsin has died

WAUKESHA (AP) — Margaret Farrow, the first woman to serve as lieutenant governor in Wisconsin, died Tuesday. She was 87.

Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow, her son, said in a statement that he felt fortunate to have been raised by one of his personal heroes.

"She was a trailblazer. Not only because of her significant positions as a woman in what was very much a man's world at the time, but because of the way she stood up for all of the people of our community and our state to represent their best interests for decades," he said.

The former lieutenant governor spent decades in politics, beginning as a trustee in the Waukesha County Village of Elm Grove. Margaret Farrow was elected to the Wisconsin Assembly in 1986 and was elected to the state Senate three years later. "She then reelected in 1990,

1994 and 1998.

In 2001, Farrow, a Republican, was appointed lieutenant governor after the man who held that office, Scott McCallum, became governor when Tommy Thompson departed to become U.S. Health and Human Services secretary.

Farrow downplayed the significance of her being the first female lieutenant governor in state history.

"I've never run as a woman," she told The Associated Press in 2002. "I'm ready to represent all of my constituents."

McCallum told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Tuesday that he didn't choose her to be his lieutenant governor because of her gender, even though she broke barriers for women.

"We've lost a very decent person. Just a very good human being who is willing to serve the public," McCallum said. "She was kind. She wanted to

do things for people both in government and outside of government. In her personal life, she continued to express that good. "Margaret really was a peach of a human being," he said.

She worked on various boards, committees, commissions and task forces through 2021, her son said. Former Gov. Scott Walker, a Republican, said as a college student he volunteered to work on Farrow's first run for state Senate before they later served together in the state Assembly.

"She was a conservative icon," Walker said. "She was a mentor and a friend."

Current office holders also praised Farrow.

Democratic Gov. Tony Evers, who served on the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents with Farrow, said he "was always grateful for her perspective and her kindness."

And Republican Assembly Speaker Robin Vos called her a "great leader who stood up for everyone in her community and represented our state with grace."

"She was incredibly talented and inspired many, not only because she was the first female Lieutenant Governor, but because of her long legacy of public service," Vos said in a statement.

Her family said she passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones at home in Pewaukee. No cause of death was released. Funeral arrangements are pending.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Virtual Public Meeting for Badger State Solar, LLC Alternating Current Project

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC, for public review and comment. RUS published the Draft EIS on March 4, 2022, to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS was prepared and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of two alternatives – the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project).

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, west of the City of Jefferson, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.

Badger State Solar has indicated the intention to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the EIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Comments received will be duly considered in the preparation of the Final EIS which is expected to be available in mid-to-late-2022. The Final EIS will be published and available for public review, and a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency's decision regarding Badger State Solar's request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the Final EIS and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft EIS must be postmarked or received online on or before April 18, 2022. Comments submitted after April 18, 2022 may not be considered by the agency. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft EIS will be held in a virtual format on March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm central via Zoom.

**REGISTRATION:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.com/consultation>. Details on how to access the webinar will be sent via email after registering. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the webinar. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Comments can also be submitted through the virtual public meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at <https://www.rus.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.com/consultation>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Hardcopies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI, and Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**CONTACT:** Comments, requests for consulting party status, requests for hard or electronic copies of the EIS, or requests for additional information can be submitted by email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

or by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steinour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic communication is preferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To be considered, comments must be submitted by April 18, 2022. Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record, and may be made publicly available at any time.

Capture the natural beauty of your smile!

**Smiles by Turley**  
ADVANCED COSMETIC & IMPLANT DENTISTRY

Brian T. S. Turley, D.D.S.  
184 W. Plymouth St., Jefferson  
(920) 674-9567  
[www.smilesbyturley.com](http://www.smilesbyturley.com)  
Call today for your cosmetic or implant consultation.

► We guarantee this will be your best dental visit Ever...or it's FREE ◄

**DINNER IS SERVED**

**COUPON**

**\$2.00 OFF ON SEAFOOD DINNER**

ALL DINNERS SERVED W/ FRIES, COLESLAW, DINNER ROLL. SUBSTITUTIONS MAY BE ADDITIONAL CHARGE.

**Culver's**  
Welcome to delicious.  
of Johnson Creek  
525 Village Walk Ln.,  
920-699-8420  
Hours: 10am-10pm Daily

Expires April 15, 2022  
Good only at Johnson Creek Location!

**WALLEY DINNER**  
Limited supply

**BUTTERFLY ZAVAH SHRIMP DINNER**

**NORTH ATLANTIC COD DINNER**



# Veteran Art Exhibition to open in conjunction with conference

MADISON — On March 16, the Wisconsin Veterans Museum will open a new exhibit, "Wisconsin Was There: Sharing the Legacies of Printmakers Who Served in the Military."

Curator of Veteran Art Yvette Pino has organized the exhibit of works by more than 20 printmakers with ties to Wisconsin. Interspersed with the museum exhibits are print works by Wisconsin veterans with a creative vision. Works range from the Civil War era-commissioned prints for Abraham Lincoln to contemporary work by post-9/11 veterans.

For the printmaker, especially those who served between the Civil War and World War II, their skillset in the visual arts was critical to military mission readiness. Trades such as engravers, lithographers, draftsmen, and publishers were recruited for the war effort. Artists see the world differently. In World War II that unique vision strengthened the Allied campaigns and changed

how war was fought. The invention of the "Target Identification Unit" by Milwaukee-born Gerald Geerlings and a patented plane spotting technique by United States Navy cartographer Richard Florshiem aided Allied bombers in identifying the enemy and completing successful missions. Their contributions as civilian printmakers continued in classrooms and communities throughout the state and across the nation after their service.

Several special events are planned at the museum.

On March 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. is Drink and Draw from the Storefront. Using images from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum collection, WVM's resident artist and U.S. Army veteran Yvette Pino will demonstrate how to make trace monoprint memory drawings. A trace monoprint drawing is made by rolling out a small amount of s/o-drying ink (usually printmaking ink) onto a piece of plexiglass and placing a damp piece of paper over it to trace a line with a pencil or pen. Live observers are welcome or participate at home through a live stream of the event.

From March 16 to March 19, from 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. there will be artist demonstrations. One can view veteran artists Shawn Ganther, Ash Kyrie, Yvette Pino as they demonstrate printing techniques from the museum front window. Anchor Printing in Kenosha will bring a printing press on wheels and give a live demonstration.

Live from the Storefront Window will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday. Featuring the temporary exhibit, "Wisconsin Was There: Sharing the Legacies of Printmakers Who Served in the Military" and the evening's program will be our Live from the Storefront Window Series. Guest artist will create and discuss their artwork from the museum's storefront windows. Passers-by can observe and are welcomed into the museum to tour the galleries and chat with the artist. This program will also feature a virtual component that is live and recorded.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum exhibit opens as a part of the Southern Graphics Conference International hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Madison, March 16-19. The SGCI annual conference brings together more than 1,000 printmakers and arts professionals in all stages of their careers.

## Flying high



Contributed

Sometimes one has to stop and take a look around. Kim Hiller happened to look up on Friday to see this majestic eagle flying high in the clear blue skies in Watertown.

# Consumers may be impacted by T-Mobile data breach

MADISON — Attorney General Josh Kaul and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection urge Wisconsin residents who believe they were impacted by the data breach announced by T-Mobile in August 2021 to take appropriate steps to protect their information from identity theft.

On Aug. 17, T-Mobile reported a massive data breach compromising sensitive personal information of millions of current, former, and prospective T-Mobile customers. The breach impacted more than 53 million individuals, including 434,555 Wisconsin residents. Among other categories of impacted information, millions had their names, dates of birth, Social Security Numbers, and driver's license information compromised.

Recently, a large subset of the information compromised in the breach was for sale on the dark

web—a hidden portion of the Internet where cyber criminals buy, sell, and track personal information. Many individuals have since received alerts through various identity theft protection services informing them that their information was found online in connection with the breach, confirming that impacted individuals are at heightened risk for identity theft.

"Hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites have been impacted by this data breach," said Kaul. "I encourage everyone who may have been impacted to take steps to help protect themselves and prevent potential identity theft."

"DATCP is concerned about the impact of the T-Mobile breach on Wisconsin consumers," said DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski. "We urge people to take immediate steps to determine whether you have been a victim of ID theft and to take measures

to protect your identity." Anyone who believes they were impacted by the T-Mobile breach can monitor their credit and put a free credit freeze on credit reports. Credit monitoring services track credit reports and alert one when a change is made, such as a new account or a large purchase. Most services will notify one within 24 hours of any change to a credit report.

Also consider placing a fraud alert on a credit report. A fraud alert tells lenders and creditors to take extra steps to verify identity before issuing credit. One can place a fraud alert by contacting any one of the three major credit bureaus.

For additional information or to file a complaint, visit the DATCP's Consumer Protection Bureau at [datep.wi.gov](http://datep.wi.gov), send an e-mail to [DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov), or call the Wisconsin Consumer Protection Hotline toll-free at 800-422-7128.

**Got a Junk Car?**  
920-261-8933 • M-Sat  
\$ Get Paid Cash \$  
Running or Not!  
Reliable Auto

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Virtual Public Meeting for Badger State Solar, LLC Alternating Current Project

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC, for public review and comment. RUS published the Draft EIS on March 4, 2022, to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS was prepared and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of two alternatives – the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project [Project].

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, west of the City of Jefferson, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.

Badger State Solar has indicated the intention to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the EIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Comments received will be duly considered in the preparation of the Final EIS which is expected to be available in mid-to-late-2022. The Final EIS will be published and available for public review, and a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency's decision regarding Badger State Solar's request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the Final EIS and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft EIS must be postmarked or received online on or before April 18, 2022. Comments submitted after April 18, 2022 may not be considered by the agency. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft EIS will be held in a virtual format on March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm central via Zoom.

**REGISTRATION:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. Details on how to access the webinar will be sent via email after registering. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the webinar. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Comments can also be submitted through the virtual public meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at <https://www.rus.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Hardcopies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI, and Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**CONTACT:** Comments, requests for consulting party status, requests for hard or electronic copies of the EIS, or requests for additional information can be submitted by email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

or by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steinhour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic communication is preferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To be considered, comments must be submitted by April 18, 2022. Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record, and may be made publicly available at any time.

## WATERTOWN COMMUNITY CABLE

Following is the Watertown TV weekly schedule for channel 985.

For any questions or concerns, call Jourdan Westenberg, Watertown TV assistant media coordinator, at 920-262-4021 or email [WatertownTV@cityofwatertown.org](mailto:WatertownTV@cityofwatertown.org).

**Tuesday, March 8** — 8 a.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church service; 9 a.m., River Valley Church service; 10 a.m., Pet of the Week; 11 a.m., Christ United Methodist Church service; noon, Immanuel Lutheran Church service; 1 p.m., Pet of the Week; 1:30 p.m., Carol's Kitchen; 3 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church service; 4 p.m., River Valley Church service; 5 p.m., ICAN; 6 p.m., Christ United Methodist Church service; 7 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church service; 8 p.m., Watertown High School Boys Basketball vs Deforest.

**Wednesday, March 9** — 8 a.m., ICAN; 9 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church service; 10 a.m., Music for the Master; 10:30 a.m., Carol's Kitchen; 11 a.m., Calvary Baptist Church

service; noon, Speaking of Horses; 1 p.m., Sports Talk; 3 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Watertown; 4 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church service; 5 p.m., ICAN; 6 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church service; 7 p.m., common council meeting; 8 p.m., Promised Land Ministries Church service; 9 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Watertown.

**Thursday, March 10** — 8 a.m., common council meeting; 9 a.m., Carol's Kitchen; 10 a.m., First Congregational United Church of Christ service; 11 a.m., Moravian Church service; noon, St. Matthew's Church service; 1 p.m., Watertown High School girls basketball vs Deforest; 3:30 p.m., Municipal Band Concert; 5 p.m., First Congregational United Church of Christ service; 6 p.m., Moravian Church service; 7 p.m., St. Matthew's Church service; 8 p.m., ICAN; 9 p.m., St. Mark's Christmas Concert.

**Friday, March 11** — 8 a.m., St. Luke's Church service; 9 a.m., Euterpe Music Club; 10 a.m., St. John's Ixonia Church

service; 11 a.m., Watertown High School boys basketball vs Monona Grove; 2 p.m., Municipal Band Concert; 3 p.m., St. Luke's Church service; 4 p.m., Pet of the Week; 4:30 p.m., The Local Perspective; 5 p.m., St. John's Ixonia Church service; 6 p.m., Flashback Film Fridays.

**Saturday, March 12** — 8 a.m., Mayor Emily McFarland's weekly roundup; 8:30 a.m., The Local Perspective; 9 a.m., Carol's Kitchen; 9:30 a.m., Music for the Master; 10 a.m., Watertown High School girls basketball vs Deforest; 1 p.m., Speaking of Horses; 1:30 p.m., Euterpe Music Club; 4 p.m., Watertown High School boys basketball vs Deforest; 5:30 p.m., Carol's Kitchen; 6 p.m., ICAN; 7 p.m., Sports Talk with Jamie Koepp; 7:30 p.m., Explorers of the Unknown; 8 p.m., Local Music Show; 9 p.m., Seventh Day Adventist Church service; 10 p.m., ICAN.

**Sunday, March 13** — 7 a.m., Seventh Day Adventist Church service; 8 a.m., River Valley Alliance Church service; 9 a.m., Music for the Master; 10 a.m., St. Matthew's Church service; 11 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church service; noon, St. John's Lutheran Watertown; 1 p.m., St. Mark's Regular Church service; 2 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church service; 3 p.m., Christ United Methodist Church service; 4 p.m., Immanuel Lutheran Church service; 5 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church service; 6 p.m., First Congregational United Church of Christ service; 7 p.m., Moravian Church service; 8 p.m., St. Luke's Church service; 9 p.m., St. John's Ixonia Church service; 10 p.m., Promised Land Ministries Church services.

**TAX PREPARATION COUPON**

**\$20 OFF YOUR PERSONAL TAX RETURN**

Expires April 15, 2022

**DJC TAX & ACCOUNTING LLC**

Jefferson • Watertown

*"Never Worry About Your Taxes Again!"*

Accuracy Guarantee

(920) 251-9414  
2010 W. Main St., Watertown  
(2 doors east of Muller's)

**11:00am-5:00pm**  
**Mon-Thurs 9am - 7pm**  
**Friday 10am - 5pm**  
**Saturday 9am - 12 noon**

**BIGGEST REFUNDS ALLOWED BY IRS**

(920) 674-6330  
1011 S. Main St., Jefferson  
(Next to Budget Bank)

**11:00am-5:00pm**  
**Mon-Thurs 9am - 7pm**  
**Friday 9am - 5pm**  
**Saturday 9am - 12 noon**

**FREE E-FILE**  
(With Paid Tax Preparation)

**Free Print Your Returns with 2021 Tax Prep**

Keep this coupon with your tax papers!

FOR THE RECORD

**Watertown Fire Department**  
**Emergency medical calls** — Paramedics were called to the following location:  
 — Thursday at 12:51 a.m. to State Highway 26 for a male who was not treated and not transported.  
 — Thursday at 3:37 a.m. to the 100 block of Williams Street for a male who was not treated and not transported.  
 — Thursday at 7:45 a.m. to the 100 block of Hospital Drive for a male.  
 — Thursday at 10:10 a.m. to the 900 block of Fox Creek Drive for a female.  
 — Thursday at 10:40 a.m. to the 300 block of North Church Street for a male.  
 — Thursday at 2:33 p.m. to State Highway 19 for a male.  
 — Thursday at 2:58 p.m. to the 1000 block of Perry Street for a service call.  
 — Thursday at 3:53 to the 200 block of East Main Street for a male.  
 — Thursday at 4:41 p.m. to the 1100 block of River Drive for a male.  
 — Thursday at 11:09 p.m. to the 1100 block of Doris Street for a female who was treated and not transported.  
 — Thursday at 11:56 p.m. to the 800 block of Richards Avenue for a male.  
 — Friday at 11:11 a.m. to the 1300 block of East Main Street for a female.  
 — Friday at 1:45 p.m. to the 700 block of South Sixth Street for a female who was not treated and not transported.  
 — Friday at 1:55 p.m. to the N7900 block of

County Highway A for a male.  
 — Friday at 3:23 p.m. to the 800 block of Endeavor Drive for a male who was not treated and not transported.  
 — Friday at 7:19 p.m. to the 1100 block of Carr Street for a male.  
 — Friday at 8:11 p.m. to the 1300 block of East Main Street for a female.  
 — Friday at 8:40 p.m. to the 100 block of Scot Street for a male.  
 — Saturday at 2:05 p.m. to the W3500 block of Otto Lane for a lift assist for a female.  
 — Saturday at 11:40 p.m. to the 100 block of Serenity Oaks Terrace for a lift assist a female.  
 — Sunday at 12:22 a.m. to the 600 block of North Church Street for a male.  
 — Sunday at 8:29 a.m. to the 1500 block of North Second Street for a female.  
 — Sunday at 11:03 p.m. to the 400 block of Lexington Church Street for a male.  
 — Sunday at 11:51 p.m. to the 200 block of South Church Street for a female.  
 Unless otherwise noted, all patients were treated and transported to Watertown Regional Medical Center.  
**Fire calls** — Firefighters responded to the following calls:  
 — Friday at 10:30 a.m. to the 400 block of Franklin Street for a carbon monoxide alarm.  
 — Friday at 11:51 a.m. to the 200 block of North Water Street for an elevator alarm.  
 — Sunday at 9:52 a.m. to the 500 block of Grey Fox Run for an odor investigation.



A spot of color

**Pam Chickering Wilson**  
 A red bicycle carrying winter greenery rests against a wooden fence with last year's yellow decorative grasses waving in the background, providing a spot of color during Monday morning's snowfall. This scene could be spotted on a property along the Crawfish River in Jefferson.

Penterman votes in favor of handicap parking reform bills

MADISON — State Rep. William Penterman, R-Columbus, who represents Watertown, commented on the unanimous passage of Assembly Bills 950 and 953 in the Wisconsin State Assembly.  
 "Assembly Bill 950 eliminates unnecessary hurdles for disabled Wisconsinites," said Penterman. "Current law allows individuals with a disability to obtain special license plates or an identification card from the DOT, entitling them to a legal exemption from meter payments and time limits in municipal parking spaces that have at least a 30 minute time limit."  
 "It was brought to my attention that University of Wisconsin campuses are exempt from honoring the DOT-issued disability identifications for veterans and disabled individuals.

Because of this loophole, they are able to charge fines for parking in spots that are covered by these legal exemptions if they are located off-campus. AB 950 extends current legal exemptions for people with disabled parking plates or special identification cards to include parking spots on University of Wisconsin State campuses.  
 "Assembly Bill 953 deletes an obsolete provision in Wisconsin law," Penterman added. "In 1979, Chapter 87.31 of the Wisconsin State Statutes created the floodplain and shore land mapping assistance program to municipalities with financial assistance to produce topographical mapping of floodplain and shore land areas. Since that time, floodplains and shore lines have been well documented. There is no longer a need for this program and AB 953 simply deletes a subchapter from our statutes that has not been in use since its sunset in 1986."  
 AB 950 and AB 953 passed the Wisconsin State Assembly unanimously. They await a vote in the State Senate.  
 The 37th Assembly District includes portions of Dane, Columbia, Dodge and Jefferson Counties

LOTTERY

Wisconsin Lottery  
 Sunday  
**SUPERCASH**  
 01-05-25-26-31-33  
**PICK 3 Midday**  
 9-4-2  
**PICK 4 Midday**  
 0-0-1-3  
**PICK 3 Evening**  
 5-3-9  
**PICK 4 Evening**  
 0-8-9-2  
**BADGER 5**  
 07-11-14-17-26  
**MEGABUCKS**  
 EST. JACKPOT, \$2.2 million  
**MEGA MILLIONS**  
 EST. JACKPOT, \$126 million  
**POWERBALL**  
 EST. JACKPOT, \$90 million

Check us out ONLINE!  
[www.wdtimes.com](http://www.wdtimes.com)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Virtual Public Meeting for Badger State Solar, LLC Alternating Current Project

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC, for public review and comment. RUS published the Draft EIS on March 4, 2022, to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS was prepared and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of two alternatives – the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current Project (Project).

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, west of the City of Jefferson, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.

Badger State Solar has indicated the intention to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the EIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Comments received will be duly considered in the preparation of the Final EIS which is expected to be available in mid-to late-2022. The Final EIS will be published and available for public review, and a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency's decision regarding Badger State Solar's request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the Final EIS and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft EIS must be postmarked or received online on or before April 18, 2022. Comments submitted after April 18, 2022 may not be considered by the agency. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft EIS will be held in a virtual format on March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm central via Zoom.

**REGISTRATION:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolarconsultation.ai>. Details on how to access the webinar will be sent via email after registering. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the webinar. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Comments can also be submitted through the virtual public meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolarconsultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Hardcopies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI, and Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**CONTACT:** Comments, requests for consulting party status, requests for hard or electronic copies of the EIS, or requests for additional information can be submitted by email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

or by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steinhour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250

Electronic communication is preferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To be considered, comments must be submitted by April 18, 2022. Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record, and may be made publicly available at any time.

The Watertown Daily Times is looking for their next

Superstar!

Are you the type of person that make commitments and keeps them?

Are you hungry to succeed?

Can you talk with strangers?

Do your friends come to you for advice?

If these qualities describe you, we are very interested in speaking with you about sales opportunities in our company. The Watertown Daily Times is owned by Adams Publishing Group, which is one of the largest, privately held media companies in the US with locations spread out across the country.

We have a broad palette of solutions we share with customers to help with their marketing problems. We train individuals to share our solutions with our clients in a success-oriented climate where we partner with our advertisers.

This position is salary plus commission with additional bonus plans. We offer health, medical, vision, 401K and more.



For more information or to submit a resume please contact our General Manager.

Missy Feiler  
 608-235-8919  
 mfeiler@hngnews.com



## Valentines



Contributed

The Oak Grove Owls 4-H Club members made homemade Valentine cards for the residents at Hillside Manor in Beaver Dam. Members include, from left, back row, Jaxson Hanson, Wyatt Redecker, Bentley Gentz, Elliott Redecker and front row, Brina Drager, Addy Schmitt and Addison Dickmann.

## REMINDERS

### PEP open Thursdays

The Personal Essentials Pantry, located in the lower level of the education building at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church, 209 N. Ninth St. in Watertown, is open on

Thursdays from 1 to 3 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. PEP is located next to the Watertown Food Pantry and down the hall from the Bread & Roses meal which is served weekly on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

PEP distributes the following personal care items: facial tissue, bar

soap, toilet paper, toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, shampoo, deodorant, sanitary pads, tampons, pantliners, shaving cream, razors, bandages and swabs. Paper towels, all-purpose cleaner, dish soap, bleach and laundry detergent are also available.



@wdtimes1

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Virtual Public Meeting for Badger State Solar, LLC Alternating Current Project

The Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency within the Department of Agriculture, announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a project proposed by Badger State Solar, LLC, for public review and comment. RUS published the Draft EIS on March 4, 2022, to inform interested parties and the general public about the project proposal and to invite the public to comment on the scope, Proposed Action, and other issues addressed in the Draft EIS. The Draft EIS was prepared and evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of two alternatives – the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action related to providing financial assistance for the Badger State Solar, LLC's Alternating Current solar project (Project).

Badger State Solar proposes to construct, install, operate, and maintain a 149 megawatt (MW) photovoltaic (PV) alternating current solar energy generating facility on a site in the Townships of Jefferson and Oakland, west of the City of Jefferson, in Jefferson County, Wisconsin. The Proposed Action involves approximately 1,200 acres located on the north and south sides of U.S. Highway 18, approximately 2-miles west of the City of Jefferson and west of State Highway 89. Site land cover is predominantly agricultural crops and pasture, with some forest and wetland. Construction involves the installation on leased lands of 487,848 single-axis tracking PV panels. The lease agreement allows for an operating period of 40 years. A power purchase agreement (PPA) has been executed with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the entire output of the Project.

Badger State Solar has indicated the intention to request financial assistance from RUS for the Proposed Action and information contained in the EIS will serve as a basis for the decision regarding whether to provide the requested financial assistance. With this notice, RUS invites any affected federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested persons to comment on the scope, alternatives, and significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS.

The Draft EIS will be available for review and comment for 45 days. Comments received will be duly considered in the preparation of the Final EIS which is expected to be available in mid- to late-2022. The Final EIS will be published and available for public review, and a Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared documenting the Agency's decision regarding Badger State Solar's request for financial assistance. Notices announcing the availability of the Final EIS and ROD will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Draft EIS must be postmarked or received online on or before April 18, 2022. Comments submitted after April 18, 2022 may not be considered by the agency. A public meeting to solicit comments on the Draft EIS will be held in a virtual format on March 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm central via Zoom.

**REGISTRATION:** To attend the webinar, register online at the virtual public meeting room website <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>. Details on how to access the webinar will be sent via email after registering. Attendees will be able to provide oral and written comments during the webinar. The virtual public meeting room is an interactive website which will be available throughout the public scoping period. Comments can also be submitted through the virtual public meeting room website or to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

**MORE INFORMATION:** The Draft EIS and other Project-related information is available at RUS's and Badger State Solar's websites located at: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/resources/environmental-studies/impact-statements>, <https://badgerstatesolar.consultation.ai>, and <https://www.badgerstatesolar.com>.

Hardcopies of the documents are available at the Jefferson Public Library in Jefferson, WI, Cambridge Community Library in Cambridge, WI, and Lake Mills Library in Lake Mills, WI.

**CONTACT:** Comments, requests for consulting party status, requests for hard or electronic copies of the EIS, or requests for additional information can be submitted by email to [BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov](mailto:BadgerStateSolarEIS@usda.gov).

or by mail to United States Department of Agriculture, Attention: Peter Steinhour, Mail Stop 1570, Rural Utilities Service, WEP/EES, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic communication is preferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To be considered, comments must be submitted by April 18, 2022. Please note that any comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the public record, and may be made publicly available at any time.

## National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month to be celebrated

MILWAUKEE — AbleLight, formerly Bethesda, is harnessing the power of partnership to advance important issues during National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March, driving awareness of how everyone can work together to make a difference for the more than 7 million Americans with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"We have seen again and again how the world shines brighter when we come together to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities live with greater independence and potential," said Keith Jones, president and CEO of AbleLight. "It is this promise and the opportunity to change lives that motivates us to work every day on their behalf, and to make the world more inclusive and welcoming for people of all abilities."

To kick off the month, four people supported by AbleLight traveled to Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif., to attend their first NASCAR race, the Auto Club 400, on Sunday, Feb. 27. This dream of a lifetime is a collaboration between AbleLight and Motor Racing Outreach to promote the urgent need to support and include this community.

AbleLight is also partnering with Kendra Scott, the nationwide fine jewelry retailer, as they host several Kendra Scott Gives Back Days in March, with 20% of sales coming back

to benefit AbleLight's work.

In addition, throughout March David Ragan, NASCAR driver and FOX sports analyst, will support AbleLight with public service announcements, including a focus on AbleLight's Brighter Together personal fundraising campaign.

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month was proclaimed by President Ronald Reagan in 1987. The proclamation called upon all Americans to provide support and opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to reach their potential. In 1987, the idea that individuals with developmental disabilities could be productive contributors in the workforce was relatively new, and preconceptions had to be overcome. As the Americans with Disabilities Act came to be in 1990, workplace discrimination against individuals with developmental disabilities became a legally punishable offense. Although people with disabilities have made strides over the years, there is more that can be done.

Many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities live with a host of challenges – everything from a shortage of suitable housing options and unemployment to poor health and a lack of connection to their community. AbleLight focuses efforts to address core impact areas to enhance the lives of people at every age and stage,

from children to seniors.

AbleLight provides a variety of housing options to meet every need, including group homes, supported living, and host home arrangements. AbleLight is actively expanding the innovative Cornerstone Village concept, a first-of-its-kind residential community uniting individuals with disabilities with people of all abilities in a loving, welcoming environment.

AbleLight's Financial Services team provides one-on-one consultation and support to help people navigate the complex world of benefits and achieve their financial goals. This includes repayee services, Medicaid redeterminations, Social Security reporting and ABLE account support and training.

AbleLight College offers a life and work skills program at Concordia University in Milwaukee and Ann Arbor, Mich.

AbleLight is a national leader in pioneering life-changing services that empower people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to thrive. Founded in 1904 in Wisconsin as a Christian Mission, AbleLight promotes independence and inclusion across the U.S. through comprehensive and individualized supports that include housing, employment, spiritual life, financial services, assistive technology and much more.

**DINNER IS SERVED**

**COUPON**

**\$2.00 OFF**

**ON SEAFOOD DINNER**

ALL DINNERS SERVED W/ FRIES, COLESLAW, DINNER ROLL. SUBSTITUTIONS MAY BE ADDITIONAL CHARGE.

Expires April 15, 2022  
Good only at Johnson Creek Location!

**Culver's**

Welcome to delicious™

of Johnson Creek

525 Village Walk Ln.,  
920-699-8420

Hours: 10am-10pm Daily

## WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

All of our subscribers have access to Reader Perks! Learn how to take advantage of this rewards program today.

365,000 AVAILABLE OFFERS

READER-PERKS.COM/APG

entertainment Reader Perks

For over 50 years people have loved entertainment. With over 365,000 local and national offers, we know you will enjoy this new loyalty program.

APG

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN



# Virtual Public Meeting Open House Screenshots



### 7. Anticipated Environmental Impacts (Cont'd)

#### Anticipated Environmental Impacts (Continued)

Anticipated Impacts	Mitigation Measures
Construction Impacts	Limit construction to daylight hours, use dust control measures, and maintain access to adjacent properties.
Operational Impacts	Implement noise abatement measures, such as sound barriers and low-noise equipment.
Visual Impacts	Use screening and landscaping to minimize visual impacts on the surrounding landscape.
Other Impacts	Conduct ongoing monitoring and assessment to identify and address any unforeseen impacts.

### 8. Public Involvement

#### Public Involvement

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is committed to providing information and opportunities for public involvement in the development and implementation of the Badger State Solar Draft EIS. The following information provides details on the public involvement process, including the dates and locations of public meetings, and the methods for submitting comments.

**Public Involvement Dates:** August 19, 2022

**Public Meeting Locations:** Virtual Public Meeting Presentation (August 19, 2022, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM) and Virtual Public Meeting Presentation (August 19, 2022, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM).

**Comments:** Comments should be submitted to the USDA via the public meeting presentation or the online public comment system.

### Public Meeting Presentation

#### Badger State Solar Draft EIS Virtual Public Meeting Presentation

This page hosted a public meeting regarding the Badger State Solar Draft EIS.

**March 22, 2022 @ 10:00 am CDT**

[View Public Meeting Presentation](#)







Tr

- Home
- About RD
- Programs & Services
- Newsroom
- Resources**
- Directives
- Forms
- Publications

An impact statement is a short document that explains the significance of the research work.

Title	Company	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>

### Badger State Solar LLC

[Badger State Solar Project in Wisconsin](#)



# BADGER STATE SOLAR

[Environmental Benefits](#) [Community & Economic Benefits](#) [Why Solar?](#)

## THE PROJECT



