

Solar Roof Panels - Society of Friends Meeting House

Energy use impacts our environment, affecting air and water quality. As our area grows we burn more fossil fuels to meet the increasing need for electricity. Using energy efficiently and developing clean power options can help to reduce the impacts.

Capturing energy produced by the sun is one option. Solar energy is clean energy; no emissions are released into the atmosphere. It also avoids the environmental effects of drilling for oil and gas and mining for coal.

Madison Gas and Electric has developed solar installations throughout the Madison area to raise the visibility of solar energy and to provide data about its suitability for our area. One of our installation sites is at the Society of Friends Meeting House. The system was installed as part of a roof replacement project for this religious facility.

The electricity produced by the panels is fed into the local power system. It offsets power that would have



been produced by power plants. The Friends Meeting House is paid a percentage of the value of the electricity generated. MGE owns, operates and maintains the solar photovoltaic system.

For more information, call the MGE Home Energy Line at 252-7117 or visit mge.com/solar.

Project features

- Amorphous-silicon solar cells bonded to conventional metal roof panels.
- Roof pitch is 4/12 and faces due south.
- Output is affected by the amount of cloud cover, time of day and season of the year.

Technical description

- The entire system is called an array. The array consists of 30 standing seam-metal roof panels.
- 3.84-kilowatt system. Average annual energy production is 3,400 kilowatt-hours.