2050 Net-Zero Carbon



Cleaner Energy

New Fitchburg Solar Project to Serve MGE Customers

MGE's Sunnyside Solar Energy Center will be our first local solar project to include battery storage. The solar facility, under construction in Fitchburg, will include 40 megawatts (MW) of four-hour battery storage. The batteries will help to ensure reliability during times when energy demand is greatest and when renewable capacity is insufficient to meet all customer needs.

Sunnyside's 20 MW of solar capacity will provide enough electricity to power about 6,000 households annually. The solar array is expected to begin serving customers this summer with the battery storage coming online later.

Sunnyside will join several MGE solar facilities in Fitchburg already serving customers:

- Strix Solar is a 6-MW facility that came online in early 2025. The project serves all MGE electric customers with locally generated, carbon-free energy. Two megawatts of the project serve Shared Solar – Strix, a community solar program available to customers from MGE.
- Tyto Solar is a 6-MW solar array that came online in early 2024. Tyto Solar serves all MGE electric customers.

MGE's Sunnyside Solar Energy Center during construction in February.

- MGE's 22-MW O'Brien Solar Fields came online in 2021. This project provides solar energy to several large customers through separate Renewable Energy Rider agreements.

Working toward net-zero carbon electricity

MGE is working to reduce carbon as quickly, responsibly and cost-effectively as we can. With our current plans, by 2030, we will have added more than 40 renewable generation and battery storage projects since 2015, helping to propel us toward our goal of net-zero carbon electricity by 2050. Learn more at *mge.com/netzero.*

Community Grid

Join Community Solar from MGE

Growing our use of carbon-free energy generation is a key strategy for achieving net-zero carbon electricity—and customers like you can help!

MGE's Shared Solar – Strix is a community solar program for MGE customers who wish to reduce their environmental footprint associated with their electric use. Participants pay a one-time, up-front fee and then a monthly premium to subscribe to shares of solar energy generated by MGE's Strix Solar array in Fitchburg.

Affordable, Local Community Solar

Community solar customers don't receive the solar energy directly—instead, their participation supports the growth of renewable energy supplied to our grid, helping to create a more sustainable energy supply for all MGE electric customers. Participants do not install or maintain their own systems, and no special equipment is required to participate. Plus, you can take your shares with you if you move within the MGE service territory.

Learn more and enroll at *mge.com/sharedsolar.*

Energy Use

QUIZ: How to Stay Cool and Manage Your Energy Use This Summer

Energy efficiency is one of the easiest and most effective ways to manage your household's energy use and costs, especially during the warm and humid summer months. Plus, it's a key strategy for working together toward net-zero carbon electricity by 2050. Summer is on the way. Test your energy-savings skills ahead of cooling season!

1. Which of the following is the biggest contributor to high energy use during summer?

A) Lighting

B) Air Conditioning

C) Refrigerator

D) Television

2. True or False: Running a ceiling fan in an empty room helps reduce your cooling costs.

3. Which is the recommended thermostat setting when home to help manage energy use during cooling season?

A) Setting it to 68°F

B) Setting it to 72°F

C) Setting it to 78°F

D) Setting it to 65°F

4. What impact can a dehumidifier have on your energy bill in summer?

A) It lowers your bill because it reduces air conditioner use

B) It can increase your bill because it uses electricity and adds heat

C) It has no impact

D) It only affects winter bills

5. Which of these habits can help reduce your air conditioner use to save energy?

A) Closing blinds during the day

B) Using ceiling fans while you're in the room

C) Sealing air leaks around windows and doors

D) All of the above

Using energy wisely helps manage your household's energy use and costs. MGE is here to help. Our team of Energy Experts can help address your energy concerns. Contact us at 608-252-7000 (Option 3) or *AskExperts@mge.com*.

Answers: 1. B – Air conditioning is typically the largest energy user in the summer. 2. False – Fans cool people, not rooms. Letting them run in an empty room wastes energy. 3. C – 78°F is recommended for energy efficiency during cooling season. 4. B – Dehumidifiers use electricity and can make air conditioning work harder. 5. D – All of these help improve cooling efficiency and can help reduce energy use and costs.

Innovation

Learn About Heat Pumps

MGE fields questions from customers about energy efficiency every day—including questions about heat pumps, which can cool and heat your home!

Heat pumps are efficient because they move heat rather than generating it. They cool efficiently by removing heat from your home and moving it outdoors. During heating season, the opposite occurs—heat pumps move heat into your home. The heat pump accomplishes this through a refrigeration cycle that absorbs heat in one location and releases it in another.

Scan the QR code to learn more and to hear why one customer opted for a heat pump for her family's home.

Working Together

Connect with MGE to Make an Impact

MGE Connect® is MGE's optional demand response program for customers with devices such as smart thermostats. With customers' permission, minor temperature adjustments are made to their smart thermostats to reduce energy use during periods of high electricity demand. MGE Connect participants receive rewards for participating.

Electric use peaks during stretches of hot, humid weather when air conditioners are running in most homes and businesses. These periods of high electric use put pressure on the grid to generate and distribute enough electricity to everyone who needs it.

Learn more about eligibility and request to enroll at *mge.com/mgeconnect.*

Puede leer estos artículos en español en mge.com/e2050noticias.

Connect with MGE on social media.