2050 Net-Zero Carbon

Cleaner Energy

MGE Added Solar and Battery Storage in 2025—with More On the Way

MGE continues its transition toward greater use of renewable energy with a number of projects having come online in 2025 and more on the way.

More solar energy serving MGE customers

MGE's **Strix Solar** project in Fitchburg, a 6-megawatt (MW) solar array, became operational in early 2025. Two-thirds of the project serve all MGE electric customers with locally generated, carbon-free energy. The remaining capacity serves Shared Solar – Strix, MGE's community solar program, which is now open for enrollment.

In Rock and Walworth counties, the **Darien Solar Energy Center** also came online this year. MGE owns 25 MW of the 250-MW solar facility. MGE also will own 7.5 MW of battery storage at Darien, part of a larger 75-MW system expected to be operational in 2026.

MGE also owns part of the **Paris Solar-Battery Park** in Kenosha County. In June, the facility's battery storage came online, making it the first large-scale battery storage project in Wisconsin. MGE owns 11 MW of battery storage at the Paris facility and 20 MW of solar capacity. The 200-MW solar facility came online in 2024.

Upcoming and proposed renewable energy projects

Earlier this year, MGE received regulatory approval for two new projects now in development:

- **Sunnyside Solar Energy Center** will be MGE's first local solar project with battery storage. Located in Fitchburg, the project will include a 20-MW solar array with 40 MW of four-hour battery storage. The solar facility is expected to begin serving customers in 2026 while the battery storage is expected online in 2027.
- **High Noon Solar Energy Center**, a 300-MW solar array in Columbia County with 165 MW of battery storage, is in partnership with We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service. MGE will own 30 MW of solar capacity and 16.5 MW of battery storage from the project, which is expected online in 2027.

In addition, MGE is seeking approval for several new wind and solar projects totaling more than 84 MW of renewable capacity—enough to power more than 30,000 households. MGE's ongoing clean energy transition includes shares of the following future projects:

- Badger Hollow Wind Farm in Iowa and Grant counties
- Dawn Harvest Solar Energy Center in Rock County
- Good Oak Solar Farm in Columbia County
- Gristmill Solar Farm in Columbia County
- Saratoga Solar Energy Center in Wood County
- Ursa Solar Park in Columbia County
- Whitetail Wind Farm in Grant County

MGE continues to evaluate additional renewable energy opportunities as part of our ongoing transition toward net-zero carbon electricity. Learn more at *mge.com*.

Community Grid

NEW! Power Your Household with Community Solar

The wait is over! MGE's latest community solar program, Shared Solar – Strix, is open for enrollment. Shared Solar is an optional program for MGE electric customers who wish to power their home or small business with local, affordable solar energy.

Participants pay a one-time, up-front fee to reserve a portion of the electricity produced at MGE's Strix Solar array in Fitchburg. Then, they pay a monthly per-kilowatt-hour (kWh) charge for their chosen subscription amount (for up to 50% of their annual electricity consumption). The monthly per-kWh charge will remain fixed with participants for the life of the agreement (even if they move within MGE's electric service territory).

Community solar customers don't receive the solar energy directly—the electricity generated at MGE's Strix Solar facility is fed into MGE's distribution grid serving customers. Participation in Shared Solar supports the growth of renewable energy, helping to create a more sustainable energy supply for all MGE electric customers.

Visit *mge.com/sharedsolar* to learn more about the program and enroll.

Energy Use

Save Energy This Season with Smart Plugs, LED Lights and Mindful Decorating

The holidays can bring joy as well as more energy use as households decorate—and celebrate! A few simple choices can make a festive home also energy efficient.

1. **Use smart plugs to control holiday décor**
   A smart plug lets you set a timer or schedule for your decorations, so your lights and inflatables aren't running all day. For example, you can program them to turn on at dusk and turn off before bedtime. This ensures you're not wasting energy during daylight hours or while you're asleep. Even better, many smart plugs can be controlled from your phone, so you'll never forget to turn them off.
2. **Look for LEDs**
   LED holiday lights use about 75% to 90% less energy than traditional incandescent lights and last up to 25 times longer. A string of 100 traditional mini-incandescent bulbs can use about 40 watts while the same string of LED lights uses only 4 watts. Over a month of use, that difference can add up to several dollars of savings—especially if you run multiple strings of lights!
3. **Think twice about powering inflatables 24/7**
   Inflatable decorations bring cheer to the neighborhood, but they use more energy than you might expect. A small 4-foot inflatable might use about 50 watts while larger 12-foot displays can draw 200 watts or more while running. Left on 24/7, a single large inflatable could add $15 to $20 to your holiday electric bill. Using a smart plug to limit inflatables to evening hours can cut that cost in half or more.

The bottom line

By combining smart plugs, LED lights and the mindful use of inflatables, you can enjoy all the sparkle of the season while managing energy costs. A little planning makes your holidays brighter, greener and energy efficient.

Want to measure your energy use? MGE provides watt meters at local Madison-area libraries—you can check them out just like a book! Learn more at *mge.com/energymeter.*

Working Together

Go Green with MGE

MGE continues to grow our use of carbon-free electric generation to meet our community's energy needs while working toward net-zero carbon electricity.

We also offer optional programs for customers who want to further reduce their environmental footprint, including Green Power Tomorrow (GPT) and GPT Renewable Natural Gas (GPT RNG).

Green Power Tomorrow

MGE's GPT program is a flexible, affordable option for supporting local and regional renewable energy resources and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions from your electricity usage.

Each kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity you purchase through GPT is generated by renewable resources. GPT is one cent more per kWh. You determine your level of participation at a cost that works for you. Visit *mge.com/gpt* to learn more and enroll.

Renewable natural gas

MGE's renewable natural gas (RNG) program—GPT RNG—is an option that helps offset the greenhouse gas emissions from your natural gas usage.

Similar to GPT, under GPT RNG, you pay an incremental charge to participate. You can select either a set number of therms each month or a percentage of your monthly usage to offset through GPT RNG. Visit *mge.com/rng* to learn more and enroll.

Innovation

Interested in Driving Electric?

If you're thinking about making the switch from a gas-powered vehicle to an electric vehicle (EV), explore the variety of charging options. MGE's public charging network—powered by renewable energy—continues to grow.

Visit *mge.com/lovEV* for information about EV charging, including how to charge at home.

Earn rewards with Charge Ahead

Nearly 80% of EV charging happens at home. Did you know you can save by charging during off-peak hours?

MGE's Charge Ahead program rewards customers who charge off-peak. Participating customers (on a standard rate) who charge their EVs during off-peak hours at least 80% of the time can earn up to $60 a year.

With Charge Ahead, you set a charging schedule that works best for you, ensuring your EV is ready when you need it. The program uses a software platform to communicate with your EV, allowing MGE to optimize when the vehicle is charging.

Visit *mge.com/chargeahead* to learn more and enroll.

Another way to save—enroll in MGE's Time-of-Use rate

Some EV drivers instead opt to enroll in our Time-of-Use rate. You can save more than 20% in home charging costs by shifting vehicle charging and other electricity use to nights and weekends. Learn more and start saving at *mge.com/tou*.

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