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Cleaner Energy
MGE's First Large-Scale Battery Storage to Come Online

Construction is nearing completion on the 110-megawatt (MW) battery storage facility at the 200-MW Paris Solar-Battery Park project in Kenosha County. The battery is expected to come online this year.

MGE owns 20 MW of solar capacity from the project and will own 11 MW of battery storage when completed. The solar array came online in December 2024.

Battery storage provides reliability benefits. The combination of solar and batteries can help meet peaks in demand, particularly in summer when solar production and demand are at their highest.

Nearly 500,000 solar panels make up the array at Paris Solar. MGE's share of the project generates enough energy to power about 6,000 homes.

This new facility and other proposed projects will help MGE achieve our carbon reduction goals. MGE already is about halfway to our goal of at least 80% fewer carbon emissions by 2030. Visit mge.com/solar to learn more about how MGE is growing our use of carbon-free generation as we work toward net-zero carbon electricity.



Paris Solar-Battery Park. Photo courtesy of WEC Energy Group, which is a co-owner of the project.



Innovation
More Pole-Mounted EV Chargers Coming to Madison

MGE's public charging network continues to grow with the addition of four new pole-mounted electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. The chargers, which attach to existing MGE utility poles, offer residents easy curbside charging. The new pole-mounted chargers are located near:

- Commercial Avenue and North Street in east-central Madison
- Lakeside St. Coffee House in south-central Madison
- Quann Park on Madison's South side
- Troy Gardens on Madison's North side

Studies show that about 80% of EV charging happens at home. This can be challenging for drivers who don't have a garage or dedicated parking. That's why MGE and the

City of Madison partnered to find locations that could benefit from easy access to curbside charging.

MGE's first pole-mounted charging station was installed in the fall of 2023 on Madison's East side near Worthington Park.

MGE charging network

Visit mge.com/evcharging to learn more about MGE's public charging network, which features more than 50 charging stations, all powered by renewable energy.

There's a lot to love about EVs

Visit mge.com/LovEV to learn about vehicle models, costs, charging, benefits and more.



Thinking about spring planting? Consider a smart landscaping strategy. Planting smart not only adds curb appeal, but it can also help you save energy. Consider what's located above and below your desired planting location as well as the mature height and spread of a plant.

1. **Plant large, leafy trees on the east, west and south sides of your home to provide maximum summer shade** to help lower the surrounding air temperature. They should be planted at least 20 feet from the side of your home.
2. **Trees with lower leaves and branches work well on the west side of your home** to offer shade from lower sun angles in the afternoon.
3. **Position trees and shrubs to shade air-conditioning units.** Equipment that operates in the shade will use less electricity; however, be sure not to block the airflow.
4. **Plant bushes next to your house** to create air space that will provide insulation year-round.
5. Prevailing winter winds come from the west and north; **use dense windbreaks as buffers from cold winter winds.**
6. Be sure to **contact Diggers Hotline** at least three working days before doing any digging in your yard. Call 811 or visit diggershotline.com.
7. External shading devices, such as awnings,

overhangs and trellises, are another option to help prevent unwanted sunlight from entering your home in the summer. **For south-facing windows, a shading device should be based on window size.** There are online calculators to help determine where to install a shading device based on window size.

8. **For west-facing windows, the shading device needs a vertical component to block summer sun.** Adding hanging vines to the shading device will help further block the sun.



Working Together New Community Solar Program Proposed

A new community solar option from MGE could be available soon, pending approval by State regulators. The proposal is largely based on Shared Solar, MGE's original and fully subscribed community solar program. The new program would offer participants the option to pay a minimal up-front fee to subscribe to receive energy from MGE's Strix Solar array for six years.

The proposal builds on the success of MGE's Shared Solar program, providing customers with affordable, locally generated solar energy. Participating customers could receive carbon-free energy for up to 50% of their annual usage and would lock in their energy rate for the six-year term of the agreement. A low-income alternative also is proposed.

Visit mge.com/sharedsolar to learn more.



Our Community Grid Make an Impact with MGE Connect®

Using energy efficiently and managing when and how our customers use electricity are key strategies to help reduce carbon emissions. Voluntary programs like MGE Connect help manage customers' energy use to correspond to the needs of the electric grid.

MGE Connect is our demand response program for devices like smart thermostats. With participants' permission, minor temperature adjustments are made to their smart thermostats to reduce energy use during periods of high energy demand.

In 2024, MGE Connect participants helped to shift more than 107,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity to lower demand periods. That equals the energy use of nearly 13,000 homes during the nine events!

Visit mge.com/mgeconnect to learn more and enroll.

Be sure to connect with MGE on social media



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