Renewable Energy for Greater Minnesota

Solar is an affordable and plentiful source of energy in Minnesota, and we’re here to help farmers and rural small businesses get projects done.

Thinking about solar energy and energy efficiency?

- Explore projects that could work for you: Our website features examples of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects at Minnesota farms and small businesses.

- Identify potential funding and financing options: The USDA’s Rural Energy for American Program (REAP) and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) are great ways to fund and finance projects. Access our sample applications to get started fast.

- Get one-on-one assistance on your project: Fritz Ebinger, the CERTs Rural Energy Development Program Manager, can help you move your project forward.

Get started at CleanEnergyResourceTeams.org/GreatRenewables
Funding your Clean Energy Efforts
There are several resources available to Minnesota farms and small businesses interested in renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements, and we can help you navigate them.

**USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Grants and Loans**

The Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) from USDA Rural Development is a great opportunity for Minnesota farmers and rural businesses to save energy with efficiency work and add renewable energy systems.

**Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing**

PACE is a new way to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades to the buildings of commercial property owners. Energy-saving measures receive financing and are repaid as a separate item on their property tax assessment.

To receive one-on-one assistance with your farm contact Melissa Birch, CERTs Rural Energy Development Manager, at 218 866-2338 or mbirch@umn.edu.