Cooperative Community Solar

CERTs 2015
Cooperative Community Solar Business Models

• **Goal** – Create sustainable, long-term community solar offerings that:
  – meet the needs of cooperative member-consumers that want to invest in solar
  – makes solar PV affordable and accessible
  – Properly located, brings value to the grid
  – accelerates, optimizes and sustains solar PV adoption
Cooperative Community Solar

- Offered voluntarily, not as part of 2013 solar legislation
- Projects developed locally & Cooperative-owned
- ITC partially monetized
  - National Renewable Cooperative Organization (NRCO)
  - CoBank
- Subscribing is essentially pre-paying for 20 years of energy
- Delivers value via kWh credits on monthly bill
Wright Hennepin Community Solar Projects

Project 1 - September 2013
• 171 tenKsolar panels
• 36 kw of Silent Power battery storage
• $900 per panel
• Worked with Clean Energy Collective of Colorado
• kWh credit on monthly bill

Project 2 – July 2014
• 72 tenKsolar panels

Project 3 – Spring 2015
• 300 panels
• Financing options
Lake Region Community Solar

- 96 tenKsolar panels
- $1,500 per panel
- Worked with National Renewable Cooperative Organization (NRCO)
- kWh credit on monthly bill
- Developed Hubbell screw-in anchor foundation
- First DIY - LREC employees trained and installed array
- Phase 2 – May 2015
  - CoBank
Connexus Community Solar

August 2014
- 792 panels
- $950 per panel
- kWh credit on monthly bill

- Worked with National Renewable Cooperative Organization (NRCO)
Kandiyohi Community Solar

October 2014
- 140 tenKsolar panels
- $1,250 per panel
- kWh credit on monthly bill
- 25% subscribed

Financing options
- $0 down, 24 month loan
- “Incremental” community solar
February 2015
- 112 tenKsolar panels
- $1,295 per panel
- kWh credit on monthly bill
- Nearly 40% subscribed

- Financing options
  - $0 down, 24 month loan
- “Incremental” community solar
Coming in 2015…

- April 2015
  - McLeod Cooperative Power Association
  - Steele Waseca Cooperative Electric

- May 2015
  - Lake Region Electric Cooperative
  - Stearns Electrical Association

- June 2015
  - Runestone Electric Association

- July 2015
  - Arrowhead Electric
Areas of increased focus for utilities

- Market CS program and enroll participants
- Vet technologies and service providers
- Finance or procure project financing
- Identification sites
- Retain ownership
- Perform maintenance
- Manage operations
- Continue to meet member needs
Questions and discussion