

# Cooperative Community Solar

## CERTs 2015

GREAT RIVER ENERGY®

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



# 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**



# Itasca Mantrap 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

COMING  
SOON!



# 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

