

# Xcel Energy Solar\*Rewards Community MN



**Solar Powering Minnesota Conference**

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# Program History

- **Created in response to the State of Minnesota's legislation (Stat. 216B.1641), passed in 2013, to provide for community solar gardens**
- **Xcel Energy supported the legislation**
- **Xcel Submitted the program plan for approval in Sept. 2013**
- **The program is on track to begin accepting applications within 90 days of final plan approval**
- **Developing collaborative workshops with the solar industry and the commission**

# Program Benefits

- **Designed to provide more customers with the opportunity to purchase renewable energy**
- **Makes solar available to renters and property owners with shaded/unsuitable sites**
- **Assists in meeting the MN Solar Energy Standard**
- **Provides economic value to the state**

# Terms

- **CSG Operator**  
Developer/manager/owner of the CSG
- **Subscriber**  
End customer that receives the bill credit
- **Subscription**  
Allocation of energy produced that goes to the subscriber
- **Bill Credit**  
The monthly payment for the energy produced that is received on the subscribers bill
- **Unsubscribed energy**  
The energy not allocated to subscribers

# NSPM's Program Overview (legislated)

- Garden capacity limited to 1 MW
- Subscription minimum is 200Watts
- Subscription maximum is 120% of annual consumption (based on prior 2 years)
- Subscriber must reside within county or contiguous county
- Gardens must have 5 subscribers
- No single subscriber can be allocated more than 40% of garden capacity

# NSPM's Program Overview - Pending

- **Subscriber bill credits equal to applicable retail (~\$0.12)**
- **RECs are sold at an addition to the applicable retail rate**
  - **\$0.02 - system size >250 kW**
  - **\$0.03 - system size <=250 kW**
- **Gardens are eligible for incentives (but do not receive the additional REC):**
  - **Solar\*Rewards**
  - **MiM**
- **Standard contract term between Xcel and CSG operator is 25 years**

# NSPM's Program Overview – Pending (Cont'd)

- **Unlimited capacity – first ready first served through application process**
- **Subscribers are protected through operator requirements, disclosures, and deposits**
- **Fees (per project)**
  - **Application Fee - \$1,200**
  - **Deposit - \$100 per MW (refundable upon completion)**
  - **Engineering Review Fee - varies depending on system requirements**
  - **Annual Participation Fee - \$300 (for software license, etc.)**
  - **Monthly Metering Fee - \$5.50 for 1 phase / \$8.00 for 3 phase**

# NSPM's Program Overview – Pending (Cont'd)

- Unused monthly bill credits are banked and rolled over until an annual payout at the applicable retail rate occurs.
- Unsubscribed energy is paid to the CSG operator at the avoided cost rate for gardens >40kW and the applicable retail rate for gardens <40kW
- Apply on Website at [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com), upon which you will receive a username and password to the application system



# Application System Screenshot

[Home](#)

[Solar Gardens](#)

[Reports](#)

## CUSTOM LINKS

- [Sample Documents](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Builders Call Line](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Application Process Instructions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
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## Solar Garden Status

**Alert: Subscribers are still missing forms !**

### Solar Garden : Xcel Training Garden

Garden	Garden Name	Garden Status	Final Submission Date	Subscriber Validation Report	Nameplate Capacity	Subscribed Amount	Available Capacity	5% Allocation to low income Subscribers?
<a href="#">SRC002033</a>	Xcel Training Garden	Step 1: Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow		No	100	0	100	No

### ☐ Actions required to proceed

#### STEP 1:

Follow the instructions below to complete STEP 1 – Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow:

**\*\*Click on the Home tab to return to the instructions listed below\*\***

1. Complete online application and send forward.
2. Wait for email containing your username and password to access the online application system.
3. Login to the online application system.
4. Download the Deposit and Escrow forms by clicking the "Download Documents" button below.
5. Follow the instructions on each form for submitting payment.(Payments must be received within 5 business days).
6. Upload the completed Deposit and Escrow forms by clicking the "Upload Documents" button below.
7. We will send a confirmation email with instructions for next steps after we process your payments and forms.

**\*\*Please note, if you want to attach a Subscriber Agency Agreement, Low Income Verification Form, you must navigate to the individual subscriber detail section and use the Download Documents button located there.\*\***

[Add Subscriber](#)

[Edit Solar Garden](#)



# Moving Forward

- Order should be made public this week
- Xcel files compliance plan with D.O.C. within 30 days of order
- D.O.C. approves and gives to P.U.C.
- P.U.C gives notice of approval
- Xcel has 90 days to launch program
- Xcel has 180 days to be ensure billing system can issue bill credits

# Recent Community Solar Gardens





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# How It Works-

## *Subscriber Bill Credits*

- **Receive monthly production credit on electric bill**
  - Expressed in dollars as a bill line item
  - = customer's share of garden ~~MWh~~ production x applicable retail rate + REC
    - Determined annually and posted online in tariff
  - Production is credited on the following months bill
- **Total share in gardens can be no greater than 120% of their usage from previous 24 months**
  - 120% rule is calculated once at the time the allocation amount is entered in the system or when allocation changes