

Alliant, Hanwha plan solar plant in township

Posted: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 4:00 pm

Alliant Energy in partnership with Hanwha Q Cells USA is planning a 2.25-megawatt solar power installation to be built on Alliant Energy's Town of Beloit property near its Rock River Generating Station.

Under the collaboration, Hanwha will design, construct, own and operate the solar facility, and Alliant Energy will purchase the clean power from it.

"We're pleased to be partnering with Hanwha to bring more clean energy to our customers and advance our efforts to increase sustainability," said John Larsen, President of Alliant Energy's Wisconsin utility. "Locating this new solar installation on our landfill site benefits the environment and further repurposes our Town of Beloit property."

Alliant Energy's Wisconsin utility has signed a 10-year power purchase agreement with Hanwha, which includes an option to purchase the facility at the end of the power purchase agreement's term. Hanwha is using the landfill site at Alliant Energy's Town of Beloit property for the solar installation. Alliant Energy is collaborating with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to enable the landfill site to be reused for the solar facility.

Hanwha plans to begin construction of the solar energy facility this year and it could be operational by the first half of next year.

The Town of Beloit property also includes Alliant Energy's Riverside Energy Center, its Beloit Operations Center and the Rock River Generating Station. The new solar project is part of Alliant Energy's effort to modernize the overall energy campus.

"We're excited by the opportunity to work with Alliant Energy and support their goal of bringing solar energy to their generation portfolio," said Lawrence Greene, Chief Development Officer of Hanwha Q Cells USA. "The solar facility will be a state-of-the-art generation resource using high-performing and efficient technology that will transform idle land into an environmentally sustainable source of power for the local community."

Alliant Energy Corporation's Wisconsin utility subsidiary, Wisconsin Power and Light Company (WPL), utilizes the trade name of Alliant Energy. The Wisconsin utility is based in Madison, Wisconsin, and provides electric service to 463,000 customers and natural gas service to approximately 185,000 customers in more than 600 communities across central and southern Wisconsin.

Hanwha Q Cells USA designs, builds and manages financially sustainable solar photovoltaic (PV) solutions. Hanwha Q Cells USA is an affiliate of Hanwha Group, Fortune Global 500 Company.