



**GRAND RAPIDS  
PUBLIC UTILITIES**  
*Service is Our Nature*

**GRAND RAPIDS ITASCA CLEAN ENERGY SOLAR  
PLUS BATTERY STORAGE RIBBON CUTTING EVENT  
MEETING AGENDA**

**Thursday, June 29, 2023**

**2:00 PM**

1. NOTICE:

There will be a quorum of the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission from 2:00 until 6:00 PM on Thursday, June 29, 2023 at the Itasca Clean Energy Solar Plus Battery Storage Facility Ribbon Cutting Event that will take place on the facility site at 2515 SE 7th Avenue (Airport Road), Grand Rapids, MN 55744.



**Please join us for the ribbon cutting event at the new  
ITASCA CLEAN ENERGY SOLAR PLUS BATTERY STORAGE facility  
on June 29, 2023 from 2 to 6 p.m.**

**This event will take place on the project site at  
2515 SE 7th Avenue, Grand Rapids, MN.**

Grand Rapids Public Utilities is excited to share this huge project with the community. The new facility includes a 2 Megawatt (MW) solar array paired with a 1 MW - 2.5 hour lithium ion battery surrounded by pollinator-friendly vegetation!

*Please RSVP on the GRPU Facebook event page.*

The event will include an overview from the project team followed by tours and exhibits for the whole family to enjoy throughout the day!

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The project team includes:

Itasca Clean Energy Team, Grand Rapids Public Utilities, City of Grand Rapids, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation, Minnesota Power, and US Solar.

*Follow the GRPU Facebook page for more details in the coming weeks.*



# Itasca Clean Energy Solar Plus Battery Storage Facility

Item 1.

## Solar Array

- 2 MW photovoltaic solar array.
- 6,742 individual 3'x8' panels, half Jinko modules and half bi-facial Heliene modules.
- Single-axis tracking, follows sun east to west throughout the day.
- DC power converts to AC.
- Began generating power in April 2022.
- Anticipated 25-year lifespan.



## Battery Energy Storage System

- 1 MW-2.5 hour Ziegler Cat lithium ion battery.
- Began operating in October 2022.
- Operated by a comprehensive multi-variable load-management model.
- Solar array charges battery when model predicts an upcoming electric demand peak.
- Battery is discharged during peaks to reduce wholesale power need.



## Ownership

- The City of Grand Rapids owns the 15 acres of property.
- US Solar constructed and owns the solar array and battery and provides the maintenance on them.
- Minnesota Power developed and operates the battery energy storage system load management model.
- Grand Rapids Public Utilities contracts to receive the solar and battery benefits.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- **Why was this location chosen?** The property is city-owned and within the GPZ airport zone B which has development restrictions so the project doesn't compete with economic development.
- **Does the solar array put power back on the grid when it's producing?** Yes, the solar power flows directly into the grid unless it is being used to charge the battery.
- **How much energy does a typical household use in a month?** 886 kWh per month.
- **How much energy does the solar array produce in a month?** To date, ranges from 63 MWh to 553 MWh.
- **Can the battery be charged off the power grid?** Not yet, the battery may only be charged using solar generation and cannot be charged from the grid until the investment tax credits have expired.
- **Does the solar array generate power when it's covered with snow?** Yes. The bi-facial panels also generate from the under side of the panels.



*Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission (GRPU) is a municipal utility established by the City of Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Utilities under the jurisdiction of the GRPU include electric distribution, water treatment and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment.*

**218-326-7024 • Website: [cityofgrandrapidsmn.com/utilities](http://cityofgrandrapidsmn.com/utilities)**

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