

THIS INNOVATIVE COOPERATIVE INVESTMENT MODEL FROM WISCONSIN CREATES VERSION 2.0 OF COMMUNITY SOLAR

- People and businesses from Wisconsin join as members by paying a one-time membership fee
- Two member classes, Member Contractors (Class A) and Member Investors (Class B)
- Member Contractors build and develop the projects and Member Investors fund the projects via share purchases
- Projects are 1-5 MW and fed directly to the local utility distribution network via a Power Purchase Agreement
- Instead of kWh subscriptions, SolarShare provides equity and dividends to individuals for their investment
- Eliminates utility administrative work related to subscriptions and removes penalty for moving as shares stay with members

COOPERATIVE INVESTMENT: ANTIDOTE TO RURAL ANTI-SOLAR SENTIMENT

Allowing local people to invest in solar projects reduces NIMBYism and economic jealousy that is driving antisolar sentiment across the nation, while including Agrivoltaics removes the worry about removing prime farmland from agricultural activity.

BIGGER POOL = BETTER PROJECT

Traditional Community Solar models limit subscriptions to the utility rate base. SolarShare can sell shares to anyone in the state. Drawing from a bigger pool of investors, the cooperative can increase the size of rural projects, delivering a more cost-effective project to the utility. This helps to reduce energy burdens while keeping energy dollars in the state.