



Solar Media Kit

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Solar Energy and Cooperative Energy

Cooperative Energy owns and operates nine solar power generation facilities across the state at Coahoma Electric Power Association (Lyon); Coast Electric Power Association (Kiln); Delta Electric Power Association (Greenwood); Dixie Electric Power Association (Laurel); Magnolia Electric Power (Summit); Singing River Electric (Lucedale); Southern Pine Electric (Taylorsville); Twin County Electric Power Association (Greenville); and Yazoo Valley Electric Power Association (Yazoo City). The five 100 kW sites in Greenwood, Kiln, Lucedale, Lyon, and Taylorsville began commercial operation in 2016. The remaining four 100 kW sites began commercial operation in 2021.

MS Solar 3, a 52 MW solar facility in Lamar County, began commercial operation in December 2017. The site incorporates more than 206,000 polycrystalline solar modules into a single axis ground mounted design on 540 acres. Origis Energy developed and constructed the site now owned and operated by Onward Energy. Cooperative Energy purchases all power produced at the site.

Cooperative Energy and partner Cubico Buffalo Holdings I, LLC, began commercial operation of a 100 MW solar facility in Carroll County in November 2023. Delta's Edge, located near Greenwood, incorporates approximately 250,000 panels on a 750-acre site. Cooperative Energy purchases all power produced at the site.

Quick Facts

- Solar is considered one of the leading forms of green, or environmentally-friendly, energy. Panels are used to collect sunlight that is converted into electricity.
- Solar energy is the most abundant energy resource on Earth. The sun produces more energy in one hour than the Earth uses in an entire year. The trick is harnessing this energy and converting it into usable power.
- Solar energy can be converted into electricity, heat, or lighting.



Solar FAQ

Why did Cooperative Energy decide to build solar generation facilities?

Our consumer-members (ratepayers) — who are actually the owners — told us they wanted solar in our energy mix. Secondly, Cooperative Energy's mission is to provide reliable and affordable energy. We also have Environmental Protection Agency regulations that may require us to add more renewable energy. Adding solar as a generation source is friendly to the environment in which we all live.

What is the benefit of solar power to consumer-members?

Having solar as part of our generation mix benefits our consumer-members because it means we are not dependent on one source, and Cooperative Energy consumer-members will be less susceptible to price spikes in any one sector. Solar power is also a renewable form of energy, which we know is important to Mississippians.

Is it cheaper than other forms of energy?

That has yet to be determined, and answering this question is one of our goals. Ownership of the nine 100 kW solar sites and our partnerships in MS Solar 3 and Delta's Edge enables us to compare the economics of the sites and study the true economies of scale associated with larger sites.

How can a consumer-member ensure they are buying solar-generated electricity?

Solar energy is a long-standing part of Cooperative Energy's generation mix, which means it helps power all consumer-members' homes. Since 2010, Cooperative Energy has purchased solar-generated electricity from our consumer-members with home-based solar panels. Cooperative Energy also powers consumer-members from solar energy generated at Delta's Edge, MS Solar 3, and one of nine small-scale solar generation sites across the state. Additionally, Cooperative Energy is a member of MISO, which allows us to power Members with solar-generated electricity generated by other MISO members.

Why are Mississippi energy companies just now starting to adopt solar power when many states have been utilizing it for years?

Cooperative Energy has been purchasing solar electricity from our consumer-members for years and at the same time studying the reliability and affordability of solar. Cooperative Energy believes now is the time to expand locally based solar generation capabilities.

Is solar effective in winter months when there is less daylight and sun?

Naturally, summer days with more daylight will be optimal, but we believe Mississippi is geographically situated so that solar can be an energy source year-round, although certainly less effective in the winter months.