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Here Comes the Sun: Solar Development in Wisconsin

Large solar energy facilities, which provide a source of clean, renewable electricity, are booming in Wisconsin. In early 2019, Governor Tony Evers proposed that Wisconsin's electric utilities be required to be carbon free by 2050, and some of the state's largest utilities have already taken steps that are aligned with that goal. Indeed, over the past year alone, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) approved solar energy projects representing approximately 30 times the amount of solar energy generation that existed in 2018, with several more projects still in development.

This article explores the legal and practical issues associated with the oncoming increase in solar energy, how solar projects are developed and financed, and the risks and opportunities solar energy presents for landowners, energy developers, regulated utilities, local communities, and the state as a whole.

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