



# *At Your Service*

PROVIDING  
ELECTRIC, GAS, WATER AND  
SANITARY SEWER SERVICES

*September 2019*

## ***Solar Generation Set To Commence At Hastings Community Solar Farm***

Earlier this year, the Utility Board and City Council approved a contract to build the Hastings Community Solar Farm. What is a Community Solar Farm? Community solar is when solar electricity is owned and shared by multiple customers while being produced in one location. A community solar farm's primary purpose is to give customers the option to participate in renewables who can't or don't want to install solar panels on their own property.

The construction of the Hastings Community Solar Farm project was awarded to GenPro Energy Solutions of Piedmont, South Dakota. The solar farm is located west of the Hastings Municipal Airport on Highland Road. GenPro broke ground in June and the commencing of solar generation is set for the first week of September. Over 6,000 photovoltaic solar panels will be mounted to a single-axis tracking system that will rotate the panels with the sun. Each individual panel is expected to generate an average of 48 kwh of energy a month. The solar farm has a generation capacity of up to 1.5 megawatts of electricity that will interconnect directly with Utilities Department's 13.8 KV distribution system. The lifespan of the Community Solar Farm program is thirty years and approximate cost to build was \$2.38 million.



## *Participation in the Community Solar Farm*

\*All electric customers of the Utilities Department are eligible to participate in the Hastings Community Solar Farm.

\*A \$50.00 enrollment fee is due at the time of application and is refundable as a credit on the customer's account if customer remains on the program for one year. An agreement will also need to be signed to participate.

\*Customers can partake by either purchasing installed panels, a solar share (equal to 150 kwh), or a combination of both. Customers will not be able to acquire more than 80% of their annual usage from the solar farm.

### *Solar Pricing*

- Standard, electric retail rate schedules are still applied
- One solar share equals 150 kwh
  - \$.0301/kwh or \$4.52 per share each month
  - All costs are fixed for the thirty year farm life
- One time cost per installed panel is \$384.00 (plus tax)
  - Investment tax credit is available
  - \*HASTINGS UTILITIES IS NOT A TAX ADVISOR. SPEAK TO YOUR FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL TO LEARN MORE ON THE INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT\**
- Solar O & M charge = \$0.0062/kwh
  - Applies to installed panels only
- Base Energy Credit = \$0.0213/kwh
  - Applies to both solar share and panel options
  - Adjusted annually

**Pricing examples and bill calculators are available at [www.cityofhastings.org/solar](http://www.cityofhastings.org/solar). Customers are also encouraged to stop in the Business Office at 1228 N Denver or call 402-463-1371 if you need any assistance with the solar pricing.**

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