

ACEP solar farm update: *moving ahead in 2021*

Wholly owning a Peace Energy Co-op solar farm, funded by our members and providing long-term income to the Co-op and our member/investors has been a dream and goal of your Co-op board for several years. It is exciting to see this project taking shape, and gathering momentum throughout this year.

The information from the studies and plans (some of them discussed below), as well as final engineering and business plans, will provide the information we need for our Final Investment Decision. If the FID is positive, then we will proceed to a member investment offering late this year or early next year, with a goal of building and commissioning the 2 MW solar farm in 2022.

Meanwhile, we are actively building our membership from about 590 now to 1000 (ideally!) by the end of this year. With high membership numbers we will be much more likely to fund ACEP entirely from our member/investors rather than going to outside funders.

PRIVATE LAND LEASE SIGNED

The first step was to secure a piece of land to build on with a long-term lease. This has now been completed. The property is about 2.5 km south west of the Town of Peace River, Alberta and is owned by Glen Rovang.

It is in many ways an ideal location: close to a high-capacity grid; good nearby road access; not in crop (it is pasture land); full south exposure with no shading issues and with room to expand the solar farm in the future.

NEXT STEPS: there are many

Now that the land has been secured, the studies that are required by Alberta Environment and Parks and the Alberta Utilities Commission have begun and will be one of our major focuses through 2021.

To name just a few: wildlife and habitat studies have begun and will run through the summer and fall seasons; more detailed engineering studies have begun, which will narrow down equipment and installation costs; bottom line business planning is in full swing and making good progress; glint/glare, grid interconnection and other studies are also about to begin.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

If you are interested in investing in Peace Energy Co-op and would like to help build renewable energy projects like ACEP, this is a good time to become a member.

Should ACEP go ahead, only members will be given the opportunity to invest, and those members have to be “in good standing” meaning they have to have been a member for some time, usually at least a few months.

So if you know of anyone who might be interested in investing in ACEP and supporting our efforts to move to a clean energy economy, please encourage them to become a member soon. They can visit our website at peaceenergy.ca “Become a Member” or call 250-782-3882. The \$200 lifetime membership fee is well worth it, and it just takes a few minutes to join!



Since ACEP will be in a secure, fenced space, sheep can provide important grounds-keeping services, keeping the grass down while the solar arrays provide

shade, shelter and potable rain water collection. Bee keeping, market gardening and other sustainable agricultural practices are being considered for ACEP.