

The Langdon Mills Solar project is a proposed solar development in Columbia County, WI, south of the Village of Cambria. Currently, the project has acquired leases and easements on privately-owned land within the Townships of Courtland and Springvale.

For solar energy projects like Langdon Mills Solar, most landowners are local farmers who have been stewards of their ground for generations. When landowners choose to lease their land to host solar equipment, those portions of land transition away from row-crop production or its current use, and into another form of farming: harvesting energy from the sun. This allows farmers the opportunity to diversify their operations by pairing solar and agriculture.

Solar farms have proven over the years to support rural communities and supplement traditional row-crop production. They provide a dependable annual income to county and town(ship)-level tax revenues while producing clean energy that is locally harvested, produced, generated, and used. Solar energy facilities have been a vital and sustaining agricultural resource across the United States, all while revitalizing the ground on which they reside.

Underneath the solar panels, a ground cover of deep-rooted, native vegetation is planted. This benefits both the solar farm itself and the farms in the surrounding area. In addition to stabilizing the ground, which minimizes runoff and enhances nutrients in the soil, the native vegetation creates an excellent habitat for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators, improving area farm productivity.

When solar energy facilities reach the end of their useful lives, row-crop production can resume. As a result of the native plantings, the land will have become more fertile and be refreshed for any future agricultural uses.

The collaboration between solar energy and agriculture has enriched rural communities and given the term 'homegrown' a whole new meaning. Together they bring a sustaining source of power and prosperity to communities.



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## langdonmillssolar.com