

**Statement of Project Objectives  
Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA)  
Midwest Grow Solar Partnership**

**A. PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

1. Expand on current local successes to facilitate **permitting process** improvement with target jurisdictions that have key positioning to advance broader regional adoption.
2. Utilize local champions and national resources to facilitate adoption of model **planning and zoning** rules with target jurisdictions that have key positioning to advance broader regional adoption
3. Leverage local partnerships and regional/national expertise to support the development of model **solar finance programs** through a statewide technical assistance grant program targeted to priority stakeholders including jurisdictional authorities, utilities, public entities, and lenders.
4. Engage utility groups with stakeholder-supported model practices to improve **interconnection process** and pilot the process improvements with both regulated and unregulated utilities
5. Provide regional support and resources for state legislative actions to improve **interconnection and net metering standards**
6. Manage a shared website, state-level conference series, targeted professional development, and community education programs that facilitate collaborative **resource aggregation and stakeholder engagement** to replicate success
7. Project management and reporting

**B. PROJECT SCOPE**

Further strengthen the Midwest Grow Solar Partnership to develop the relevant authority, coordination, and reach to scale the solar PV market across the Midwest. The ongoing impacts of RSC II will reduce the solar market barriers through the:

1. Institution of tools and techniques to reduce the soft costs of approvals by partnering with jurisdictions that have shown leadership in the adoption of permitting and planning and zoning best practices (i.e. Beacon Jurisdictions) to engage neighboring communities that have significant opportunity for improvement (i.e. Beta Jurisdictions)
2. Development and replication of model finance arrangements through statewide technical assistance grant programs
3. Establishment of stakeholder networks and professional development opportunities through the growsolar.org web portal and Solar Powering the Midwest conference series, and the
4. Improvement of rules, standards and policies to reduce market barriers and provide a framework for sustainable market growth.

**C. TASKS TO BE PREFORMED**

**BUDGET PERIOD (BP) 1 (0-18 MONTHS)**

**TASK 1. PERMITTING PROCESS**

- D1 Define 20-30 priority jurisdictions for permit process improvements in MN, WI, and IL and approach for technical assistance agreements (BP1, Q1)
- D2 Signed technical assistance agreements with 15-20 jurisdictions and registration into Grow Solar web portal (BP1, Q3)
- D3 Completed toolkit adapting national best permitting practices to each state's permitting practices (BP1, Q3)
- D4 In-person training of staff from 10-15 Beta Jurisdictions on permitting best practices with follow-up resources and webinars reviewing priority content (BP1, Q3-Q6)
- D5 Permitting best practices adopted in 10-15 beta jurisdiction partners (BP1, Q5)

- D6 Assessment of and modifications to (if necessary) beacon cities' permitting processes (BP1, Q6)

**Subtask 1.1. Establish partner collaboration with beta test jurisdictions**

- M1 Develop inventory and documentation of current state permitting and building code administration practices. (BP1, Q1)
- M2 Consolidate Beacon partners successes with national best practices tools and techniques, assess additional changes needed to improve efficiency or ensure sustainability of best practices in the local regulatory environment, identify implications for standardized toolkit - Subtask 1.4. (BP1, Q2)
- M3 Select jurisdictions and register each entity into the Grow Solar web portal (Task 6) so as to track improvement metrics as the city adopts best practices to maximize transparency and accessibility of progress. (BP1, Q3)

**Subtask 1.2. Replicate best practices tools and techniques**

- M1 Create regional standard permitting process based on assessments completed in subtask 1.1 (BP1, Q3)
- M2 Establish agreements outlined timelines, deliverables, and information sharing with partner jurisdictions (BP1, Q4)
- M3 Identify supplementary tools for Beacon cities, if necessary (BP1, Q4)
- M4 Conduct validation workshops with beta jurisdictions and regional market stakeholders on standard process (BP1, Q4-Q6)

**Subtask 1.3. Beta-test in partnering jurisdictions**

- M1 Move each Beta Jurisdiction to adoption of permitting best practices. Enter permitting standards into the National Solar Permitting Database (NSPD). (BP1, Q4-Q6)
- M2 Implement other process improvements such as setting permit fees, providing clarifying technical information on issues such as structural thresholds for solar retrofits of existing buildings, or other implementation barriers. (BP1, Q4-Q6)
- M3 Provide face to face training to staff within jurisdictions on using the new permit application and any local conditions that create variability in submittal documents or staff decision-making. Invite neighboring communities and local county staff to participate. (BP1, Q4-Q6)
- M4 Enter improvement metrics into DOE metrics tool (BP1, Q6)

**TASK 2 PLANNING AND ZONING IMPROVEMENTS**

- D1 Standard rules and recommendations for solar rights and easements (BP1, Q1)
- D2 Signed technical assistance agreements with 15-20 jurisdictions and registration into Grow Solar web portal (BP1, Q2)
- D3 Completed toolkit adapting national best planning and zoning practices to each state (BP1, Q3)
- D4 Planning and zoning best practices adopted in 10-15 Beta Jurisdictions (BP1, Q6)

**Subtask 2.2. Generate standard rules recommendations for solar rights and easements, based on best practices of beacon cities**

- M1 Consolidate current state and Beacon Jurisdiction best practices for planning and zoning (BP1, Q1)
- M2 Compile or provide legal interpretation of state solar rights legislation (BP1, Q2)
- M3 Compile national best practice tools and techniques (BP1, Q2)
- M4 Compile 'planning and zoning toolkit' for Beta Jurisdictions (BP1, Q3)

**Subtask 2.3. Implement in beta-test partner jurisdictions**

- M1 Provide solar-ready building recommendations (BP1, Q3)
- M2 Train staff within jurisdictions (BP1, Q4-Q5)

- M3 Adopt appropriate solar zoning ordinance within each beta-test jurisdiction partner (BP1, Q5)
- M4 Implement other solar rights, planning, and zoning improvements in each beta-test jurisdiction partner (BP1, Q5)
- M5 Validate improvement metrics (BP1, Q6)

### **TASK 3. MODEL SOLAR FINANCING PROGRAMS**

- D1 Formation of State Solar Advisory Groups for MN, WI, and IL. (BP1, Q1)
- D2 Resource aggregation and introductory webinars in each priority topic area with outreach support from state energy offices, utility associations, municipal associations, and other stakeholder groups (BP1, Q2-Q3)
- D3 Technical assistance grant process and guidelines for the development of model solar finance programs (e.g., shared solar, commercial PACE, solar deployment in Community Choice Aggregation, solar financing through the MN Guaranteed Energy Savings Program) with statewide solicitation to target stakeholder groups (e.g., utilities, municipalities, public entities, contractors) in MN, WI, and IL (BP1, Q2-Q3)
- D4 Agreements with 10-15 entities with representation in each state outlining technical assistance requirements, timeline and deliverables, and information sharing for finance program design and implementation (BP1, Q4)
- D5 Implementation of 5-10 projects with representation in each state (BP1, Q5-Q6)

#### **Subtask 3.1. Convene Solar Advisory Group in each state to define priorities and process for statewide technical assistance grant solicitation**

- M1 Convene advisory groups with participation from state, regional, and national expertise (BP1, Q1)
- M2 Establish grant program in each state, including process, requirements, technical assistance available, timeline, peer review and selection, contractual relationships, reporting, and evaluation (BP1, Q2-Q3)
- M3 Develop outreach materials and deliver webinars and presentations to target stakeholder groups in each topic area (BP1, Q2-Q3)
- M4 Conduct solicitation and recipient selection in each state (BP1, Q3)

#### **Subtask 3.2. Facilitate the implementation of pilot solar finance programs and share experiences through stakeholder groups**

- M1 Provide technical assistance to 10-15 entities to develop plans for project finance including project engineering, contract arrangement, financial modeling, legal and regulatory analysis, and permitting and interconnection support. BP1, Q5-Q6
- M2 Further facilitate implementation of programs with resources, program outreach and enrollment support. (BP1, Q6)

### **TASK 4. INTERCONNECTION AND NET METERING PROCESS**

- D1 Current state practice findings reports – Regional analysis of interconnection/net metering processes related to Application, Information Access, Interconnection Process Time, and Inspection (2 total, regulated and unregulated utility reports) (BP1, Q1)
- D2 Best practice improvement design recommendations reports – Consensus findings from Regional utility stakeholder groups on the components and trigger points of successful solar adoption roadmapping (2 total, regulated and unregulated utility reports) (BP1, Q4)
- D3 Six pilot utility Roadmaps generated into a public-facing tracking solution (BP1, Q6)
- D4 Upload interconnection and net metering processes to a public-facing tool for all Utility stakeholders that respond to assessment surveys, track progress and outcomes periodically (BP1, Q6)

#### **Subtask 4.1. Convene Regulated Utility Stakeholders working group**

- M1 Active participants identified and surveyed from regulated utilities in 3-State area by IOU, municipal, large generation, transmission cooperatives, and retail energy suppliers who have a regulatory obligation to facilitate net metering processes on behalf of their customers. (BP1, Q1)
- M2 Develop current utility interconnection / net metering practices and solar perceptions – obstacles, detriments, operational impacts (BP1, Q1)
- M3 Complete regional sub-meeting workshop series to address local challenges (BP1, Q1-Q2)

**Subtask 4.2.**Unregulated Utility current state research and information gathering

- M1 Engage stakeholder groups to capture member profiles & current interconnection & net metering practices and governing policies. (BP1, Q1)
- M2 Conduct validation webinar with unregulated utility stakeholders to define current landscape, challenges, and opportunities regarding to interconnection & net metering processes (BP1, Q1)
- M3 Regional current state unregulated utility (Coop, muni, tribal, other) landscape completed and presented to the Steering Committee and DOE (BP1, Q2)

**Subtask 4.3.** Develop Interconnection/Net metering process improvements design and implementation paths with regional utility stakeholder groups - compile findings, generate technology, regulatory, and process-related recommendations

- M1 Best practices and target improvement areas compiled and shared to Program stakeholders via webinar series (2 webinars total). Topics include sharing model interconnection process frameworks (FERC Order 792 recommendations and IREC model interconnection guidelines), as well as providing case study insights by utilities who applied tools and techniques to manage rapid DG growth. (BP1, Q3)
- M2 Workshop validation series, with feedback, completed with each utility stakeholder group regarding emerging challenges and opportunities impacting Midwest utilities as DG (especially rooftop solar) penetration scales. Each workshop addresses a specific interconnection process best practice theme, including electronic application formats & payment options, electronic data recordkeeping, status tracking/reporting, inspection appointment tools, etc. (BP1, Q3-Q4)
- M3 Shared Solar – program enrollment process evaluation completed, with actions roadmap plan and leading practice examples for regulated/unregulated utility stakeholder groups (BP1, Q4)
- M4 All changes made to design recommendations – consensus findings compiled and disseminated to stakeholders (BP1, Q4)

**Subtask 4.4.**Technical assistance in creating pilot utility multi-year Solar Adoption Roadmaps with technology / process improvements and examples and decision points built by utility groups

- M1 Roadmap created with at least 3 pilot regulated utilities– Identify, interview, and share leading practice regulated utilities examples that are adopting improved interconnection processes and tools (BP1, Q5-Q6)
- M2 Roadmap created with pilot unregulated utility stakeholder organizations (at least 3 utilities or representatives on behalf of utility groups)– Identify, interview, and share leading practice unregulated utilities examples that are adopting improved interconnection processes, tools, and standards (BP1, Q5-Q6)
- M3 Improvement metrics uploaded into NREL’s Solar Metrics portal, with initial pilot utility interconnection process gains and committed improvements captured through Adoption Roadmap commitments (BP1, Q6)

**TASK 5. INTERCONNECTION AND NET METERING STANDARDS**

- D1 Establish regional Solar Valuation Advisory Group to guide solar valuation study guideline

development for WI, MI, and IA (BP1, Q1-Q2)

D2 State solar valuation study guidelines for WI, MI, and IA (BP1, Q6)

D3 Interconnection and net metering barrier assessment and recommendations document for IL, WI, MN, IA, MI (BP1, Q6)

**Subtask 5.1. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Illinois**

M1 Provide information to support community solar and virtual net metering standards through Advanced Metering Infrastructure and/or separate Illinois Commerce Commission petition (BP1, Q2)

M2 Provide information to support the implementation of SREC market development through the Illinois Power Agency IPA program design and procurement process (BP1, Q1-Q2)

M3 Provide information to complete the implementation of new interconnection standards through ICC rulemaking (BP1, Q3)

M4 Provide information to complete the implementation of new NEM rules through ICC rulemaking (BP1, Q3)

**Subtask 5.2. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Wisconsin**

M1 Provide information to support stakeholder efforts to clarify legality of 3<sup>rd</sup> party PPA financing (BP1, Q1-Q2)

M2 Provide information to update interconnection standards through WPSC rulemaking (BP1, Q3)

M3 Work with Wisconsin stakeholder groups to initiate statewide solar valuation study (BP1, Q4-Q6)

**Subtask 5.3. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Minnesota**

M1 Provide information to support the improvement and expansion of the Minnesota Value of Solar Tariff (BP1, Q2-Q3)

M2 Provide information to support the improvement and expansion of Minnesota Solar Gardens (BP1, Q2-Q3)

**Subtask 5.4. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Iowa**

M1 Clarify legality of 3<sup>rd</sup> party PPA financing (BP1, Q1-Q2)

M2 Provide information to support net metering policies through IUB docket (BP1, Q2-Q3)

M3 Provide information to modernize interconnection standards through IUB rulemaking (BP1, Q2-Q3)

M4 Work with Iowa stakeholder groups to initiate a statewide solar valuation study (BP1, Q4-Q6)

**Subtask 5.5. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Michigan**

M1 Provide information to support MPSC rulemaking to expand utility solar programs (BP1, Q2-Q3)

M2 Work with Michigan stakeholder groups to initiate statewide solar valuation study (BP1, Q4-Q6)

**TASK 6. RESOURCE AGGREGATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

D1 Branded, regional presence and partnership structure on [www.growsolar.org](http://www.growsolar.org) with tools, techniques, and best practices for key stakeholder groups (BP1, Q2)

D2 Enrollment and data management functionality to track and share progress on market maturity indices and other pertinent data for key stakeholder groups (BP1, Q3)

D3 Outreach partnership agreements with stakeholder associations and State Energy offices with the purpose of dissemination of information, webinars and events (BP1, Q2)

D4 Digital outreach and professional development opportunities for key stakeholder groups, including videos, case studies, webinars, CEC-bearing technical trainings, and tailored customized training for target stakeholder groups (BP1, Q3-Q6)

D5 State-level ‘Solar Powering’ conferences in MI, IA, and WI modeled after Solar Powering Minnesota and Solar Powering Illinois conferences (BP1, Q1-Q6)

D6 Expansion of Power Pack Program in IL, WI, and MN in partnership with 8 community colleges, 8 municipalities, and 30 industry stakeholders (BP1, Q1-Q6)

**Subtask 6.1. Expand Grow Solar web resource domain/resourced content**

M1 Survey stakeholders to determine web functionality/content and reorganize [www.growsolar.org](http://www.growsolar.org) to leverage existing national, regional, state, and local resources (BP1, Q1)

M2 Add resources and functionality for stakeholders groups and action areas (BP1, Q2)

M3 Use website to host videos, webinars, case studies, and best practice documents as part of professional development resource for key stakeholder groups (BP1, Q3-Q6)

M4 Provide digital outreach to notify stakeholder groups and build audience networks (BP1, Q3-Q6)

**Subtask 6.2. Expand Solar Powering the Midwest Conference Series**

M1 Organize a ‘Solar Powering’ conference in MI, IA, and WI modeled after Solar Powering Minnesota to share best practices, replicate successes, and provide professional development to key stakeholder groups (BP1, Q5-Q6)

M2 Share conference resources and presentations through Grow Solar website and newsletters (BP1, Q5-Q6).

**Subtask 6.3. Provide professional development to target stakeholder groups**

M1 Deliver CEC-bearing training to electrical inspectors, building inspectors, utility engineers, and sales/finance professionals in partnering jurisdictions. (BP1, Q5-Q6)

M2 Develop and deliver customized training offerings target stakeholder groups to facilitate system inspection, interconnection, and project finance. (BP1, Q3-Q6)

**Subtask 6.4. Expand community stakeholder engagement through the Power Pack Program**

M1 Develop partnerships with 8 additional community colleges and neighboring municipalities to conduct community outreach presentations, ‘Power Hours,’ to facilitate local stakeholder coordination and solar project development on local homes and small business. (BP1, Q1-Q3)

M2 Develop ‘Solar Street Team’ facilitator training to build a peer network able to deliver ‘Power Hour’ presentation in their community. (BP1, Q2)

M3 Develop virtual ‘Power Hour’ web resource and phone app to allow virtual access to program resources. (BP1, Q4)

M4 Sign partnership agreements with 30 additional contractors and manufacturers that meet program experience, quality, and cost requirements. (BP1, Q3-Q5)

M5 Deliver 60 ‘Power Hour’ presentations directly engaging 1,200 potential customers. (BP1, Q3-Q6)

M6 Provide 100 free site assessments to homes and business in partnership with community college training programs whose students are pursuing the practical experience requirements of the MREA PV Site Assessment and/or PV Design and Sales Certificate. (BP1, Q1-Q6)

M7 Create 30 ‘Solar Success’ Case Studies featuring homes and businesses that installed solar systems with contractors, manufacturers, and lenders participating in the Power Pack Program. (BP1, Q5-Q6)

M8 Develop a regional and national solar industry network to support the MREA Shared Certificate Program and provide entry-level employment opportunities to certificate holders. (BP1, Q3-Q6)

**TASK 7. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING**



Reports and other deliverables will be provided in accordance with the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist following the instructions included therein. A Continuation Application must be submitted up to 90 days and no later than 60 days prior to close of first Budget Period.

#### BUDGET PERIOD 2 (MONTH 19-30)

#### **TASK 1 PERMITTING PROCESS**

- D1 Permitting best practice toolkits with educational materials completed, including beta-city case studies. (BP2, Q2)
- D2 Identification of regional partners/stakeholders (see Task 6) to aid in dissemination of toolkits. (BP2, Q2)
- D3 Training and workshops conducted on regional permitting best practices with partners/stakeholders/cities. (BP2, Q3)
- D4 Technical assistance to regional partners/stakeholders/cities completed. (BP2, Q3)
- D5 Regional adoption of best practices tracked through RSCII and the NSPD. (BP2, Q4)

##### **Subtask 1.1. Disseminate regionally**

- M1 Conduct public recognition of beta-communities successes within solar market corridors, working with local groups, NGOs, solar industry. (BP2, Q1)
- M2 Develop case studies on beta-test applicants. Include internal knowledge sharing and lessons learned, and additional findings on implementation issues or lessons from Beacon cities. (BP2, Q1-Q2)
- M3 Prepare jurisdiction toolkits for expedited solar permitting and related implementation guidance. (BP2, Q2)
- M4 Conduct training sessions, education materials, and outreach sessions on permitting toolkits and best practices. Work with entities that have existing trust relationships with local governments (non-profit organizations, associations of local governments, regional governments and development commissions) to promote and participate in the training efforts. (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- M5 Work with trusted entities to provide technical assistance to selected local governments to build capacity for self-sustaining use of the toolkits post project. (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- M6 Track regional adoption through RSC II efforts, monitor enrollment to web portal, and promote use of the NSPD for additional cities that adopt best practices. (BP2, Q4)

#### **TASK 2 PLANNING AND ZONING**

- D1 Planning and zoning best practice tool-kit completed for each state, including beta jurisdiction partner case studies (BP2, Q2)
- D2 Selected regional partners/stakeholders (see Task 6) aid in dissemination of tool-kits (BP2, Q2)
- D3 Training and workshops conducted on state and regional planning and zoning best practices with partners/stakeholders/cities (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- D4 Adoption of best practices promoted and tracked through RSCII and the NSPD (BP2, Q4)

##### **Subtask 2.1. Planning and zoning best practices appropriate for each state included in final tool-kits**

- M1 Prepare jurisdiction toolkits for best practices in solar planning and zoning. (BP2, Q1)
- M2 Develop case studies on beta-test applicants. Include internal knowledge sharing and lessons learned, and additional findings on implementation issues or lessons from beacon jurisdictions. (BP2, Q2)

##### **Subtask 2.2. Disseminate tool-kits and resources regionally**

- M1 Conduct public recognition of beta-communities successes within solar market corridors, working with local groups, NGOs, solar industry. (BP2, Q2)
- M2 Conduct training sessions, education materials, and outreach sessions on planning and zoning toolkits and best practices. Work with entities that have existing trust relationships with local governments (non-profit organizations, associations of local governments, regional governments and development commissions) to promote and participate in the training efforts. (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- M3 Work with trusted entities to provide technical assistance to selected local governments to build capacity for self-sustaining use of the toolkits post project. (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- M4 Track regional adoption through RSC II efforts, monitor enrollment to web portal, and promote use of the NSPD for additional cities that adopt best practices. (BP2, Q4)

### **TASK 3. SOLAR FINANCE PROGRAMS**

- D1 Solar project finance case studies including contracting arrangements, legal and regulatory analysis, projects costs and financing, rate design, permitting and interconnection considerations, engineering review, stakeholder value perceptions. (BP2, Q2)
- D2 Presentation of case studies through regional stakeholder associations and national industry events (BP2, Q3-Q4)

#### **Subtask 3.1. Continue supporting model finance program implementation as needed**

- M1 Continue to provide technical assistance to grant recipients and track progress. (BP2, Q1-Q2)

#### **Subtask 3.2. Develop Project Case studies and Share successes and resources regionally and nationally**

- M1 Work with partnering entities, technical assistance providers, and Solar Advisory Group to develop case studies of solar projects for regional replication (BP2, Q1-Q2)
- M2 Disseminate program successes through stakeholder associations, state energy offices, and regional/national conferences. (BP2, Q3-Q4)

### **TASK 4. INTERCONNECTION AND NET METERING PROCESS**

- D1 Public case studies on BP 1 pilot group utilities (BP2, Q2)
- D2 Follow-up assessment report on improvements made by utilities based on BP 1 identified solutions and recommendations (BP2, Q3)

#### **Subtask 4.1. Regional Dissemination**

- M1 Case studies developed with on utilities pilot group, including internal knowledge-sharing and lessons learned. (BP2, Q2)
- M2 Dissemination of utility toolkits (BP2, Q3)
- M3 Training sessions, educational materials, and outreach sessions conducted – participant testimonials obtained (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- M4 Track regional adoption through RSC II efforts; monitor enrollment on growsolar.org. (BP2, Q3-Q4)
- M5 Follow-up assessment report generated from BP 1 working groups (BP2, Q4)

### **TASK 5. INTERCONNECTION AND NET METERING STANDARDS**

- D1 Complete and disseminate solar valuation study guidelines for WI, MI, and IA (BP2, Q2)
- D2 Conduct progress assessment and updates to interconnection and net metering barrier assessment and recommendations document for IL, WI, MN, IA, MI (BP2, Q2-Q3)
- D3 Evaluate progress and outline next steps for regional Solar Valuation Advisory Group (BP2, Q3-Q4)

#### **Subtask 5.1. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Illinois**

- M1 Continue technical advisory support for virtual net metering, SREC market



development, interconnection standards, and other emerging issues related to RSCII goals. (BP2, Q1-Q4)

**Subtask 5.2. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Wisconsin**

- M1** Continue technical advisory support for 3<sup>rd</sup> Party PPA, interconnection standards, statewide solar valuation, and other emerging issues related to RSCII goals. (BP2, Q1-Q4)

**Subtask 5.3. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Minnesota**

- M1** Continue technical advisory support for the improvement and expansion of the Minnesota Value of Solar Tariff, Minnesota Solar Gardens, and other emerging issues related to RSCII goals. (BP2, Q1-Q4)

**Subtask 5.4. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Iowa**

- M1** Continue technical advisory support for 3<sup>rd</sup> party PPA financing, net metering docket, interconnection rulemaking, statewide solar valuation study, and other emerging issues related to RSCII goals. (BP2, Q1-Q4)

**Subtask 5.5. Provide information to support solar rulemaking efforts in Michigan**

- M1** Continue technical advisory support for MPSC rulemaking to expand utility solar programs, state solar valuation study, and other emerging issues related to RSCII goals (BP2, Q1-Q4)

**TASK 6. RESOURCE AGGREGATION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

- D1** Host capstone Solar Powering the Midwest Regional Conference to share best practices, provide professional development, and replicate successes (BP2, Q2)
- D2** Launch social media campaign to promote ‘Solar Success’ Case Studies resulting from Power Pack Program (BP2, Q1-Q3)
- D3** Full report of Grow Solar Activities for dissemination through stakeholder associations, partners, and regional/national conferences (BP2, Q3)
- D4** Evaluation of program efforts with recommendations for continuation (BP2, Q4)

**Subtask 6.1. Host regional Solar Powering the Midwest Conference**

- M1** Participation from state and municipal government, regional industry stakeholders, finance agencies, policy makers, lending agencies, legal firms, and advocacy groups from MN, WI, IL, MI, and IA. (BP2, Q2)
- M2** Presentations and associated resources for full Solar Powering the Midwest Conference Series shared through Grow Solar website and outreach partners. (BP2, Q3)
- M3** Disseminate program resources and successes through stakeholder networks and regional/national conferences (BP2, Q3-Q4)

**Subtask 6.2. Evaluate program efforts and make recommendation for continued activity**

- M1** Conduct program evaluation with oversight by Solar Advisory Group with specific focus on stakeholder perceptions, improvements in market conditions, and continued market needs (BP2, Q3-Q4)

**TASK 7. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING**

Reports and other deliverables will be provided in accordance with the Federal Assistance Reporting Checklist following the instructions included therein.