

NEWS RELEASE

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Dairyland Power Honored at Renewables Summit

La Crosse, WI— Dairyland Power and three of its member cooperatives were honored at the statewide Energy Policy Summit on Jan. 9 at UW-Madison's Union South.

The event is organized by RENEW Wisconsin, which inducts renewable energy projects built in the state during 2014 into its annual honor roll. Dairyland was recognized for a major solar installation located at Vernon Electric Cooperative (Westby, Wis.).

Dairyland added two, 520 kW solar installations in 2014. The first, located at Vernon Electric, came online in June. (The second solar installation is located adjacent to People's Energy Cooperative in Oronoco, Minn.)

Vernon, Barron and St. Croix electric cooperatives were honored for their community solar projects. Vernon CEO Joe McDonald provided the keynote speech during the event's luncheon.

"The summit was a positive event for cooperatives," said Brian Rude, Vice President, External and Member Relations. "In addition to having our strong efforts recognized by renewable advocates, Vernon CEO Joe McDonald did an outstanding job discussing the practical advantages and challenges of renewables, as well as the unique benefits and structure of cooperative businesses."

Dairyland, Barron, Vernon and St. Croix represented four of the 16 projects recognized at the event. "The Energy Policy Summit is a fitting venue to honor the people and organizations that embraced the vision of energy self-sufficiency and job creation, and brought these ideas to fruition," said RENEW Wisconsin's Executive Director Tyler Huebner.

With headquarters in La Crosse, Wis., Dairyland provides wholesale electricity to 25 member distribution cooperatives and 17 municipal utilities. A Touchstone Energy Cooperative, Dairyland's service area encompasses 62 counties in four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois). Dairyland's generation resources include coal, natural gas, hydro, wind, biomass, landfill gas, animal waste and solar. For more information, please visit www.dairynet.com.