



Solar installation to power water treatment plant

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A five-megawatt solar installation to be built on an existing brownfield will provide more than one-third of the electrical power needed to operate the nearby City of Dayton Miami Water Treatment Plant in northeast Dayton.

Construction of the 25-acre solar array will begin in early 2026 and is expected to be complete by the end of the year. The project is made possible by a solar power purchase agreement with IGS Energy approved by the Dayton City Commission on March 5.

The solar facility will repurpose a brownfield site that was formerly home to the Sherwin-Williams warehouse (destroyed by fire in 1987), an area with limited redevelopment options. The initiative demonstrates that solar energy not only provides financial savings but can also revitalize underutilized land for clean energy generation.

The City of Dayton undertook a rigorous four-year evaluation and planning process beginning with a feasibility study to ensure the array would generate the desirable level of power capacity. In September of 2023, the City issued a bid request for solar contractors to enter into a power purchase agreement. Following a thorough review of proposals and interviews, IGS Energy (power production) and Kokosing (construction) were chosen.

The project aligns with Dayton's climate emergency commitment to reduce carbon emissions at City facilities through renewable energy generation and will be Dayton's first utility-scale solar array. Operational efficiency and savings are anticipated as well. The solar array is expected to provide 38% of the Miami Water Treatment Plant's electrical power needs.

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