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## **Wisconsin Turning the Page with Announcement by Alliant** *Cowles Applauds 'Powering What's Next' Plan to Increase Wisconsin-Generated Solar Power*

GREEN BAY— Senator Robert Cowles (R-Green Bay) released the following statement after yesterday's announcement by Alliant Energy of their 'Powering What's Next' plan:

“Alliant Energy has long been ahead of the curve among Midwestern utilities in renewable energy generation with their vast arrays of wind turbines in Iowa, but with yesterday's announcement, Wisconsin will be making strides ahead in solar power. This 1 gigawatt of planned solar generation in Wisconsin will significantly multiply our current generation capacity and compliment planned solar projects by WEC and others.

“Powering What's Next will also continue our transition towards an energy sector that has a cleaner environment and more robust economy. Solar power benefits our economy by increasing the family supporting jobs in energy manufacturing, installation and maintenance and by saving ratepayers money as renewables have begun outcompeting coal in an open market. Solar power also benefits our environment as reductions in pollution runoff and infiltration are realized by the planting of pollinator species and reductions in emissions harmful to human health are achieved.

“Setting Wisconsin on a path towards stronger energy diversity and security with a cleaner and more robust energy portfolio requires a lot of commitments, but yesterday's announcement is a significant building block in Wisconsin's energy future.”

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