



**CEDAR CREEK**  
*energy*



# Solar Qualifications and Corporate Overview

# INTRODUCTION

## ABOUT US

Cedar Creek Energy is a Minnesota-born and bred solar energy company with values that reflect those of the state we've always called home. At the same time, we are on the cutting edge of technological, design and manufacturing within the evolving and growing solar power industry. This combination allows us to provide solar solutions that break financially even after a few years and generate income for many years down the road. At Cedar Creek Energy, we have a strong commitment to providing renewable energy

solutions for your family and business. We design and install energy-efficient solar, lighting, and building automation systems for commercial, education, multi-family, and non-profit organizations, as well as for individual residences. With over 10 years of experience under our belts, we understand that in many cases going solar is a once in a lifetime investment. We strive to help you benefit from the highest possible return on your investment.

# TIME TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ABOUT SOLAR

## QUICK FACTS

- 40+ Employees
- Over 10 years experience
- Develop and install solar installations from 5kW to 5MW
- We employ our own installers, designers, engineers, and project managers
- Significant experience with schools and municipalities
- Financing- capital leases, power purchase agreements, operating leases, PACE Financing
- In-house design services
- UL certified

# OUR MISSION

Our mission is to help our clients save money on electricity through renewable solar energy installations for residential homeowners and businesses, using the most effective technology available. We provide all of our customers – residential and commercial – with an experienced team of engineers, innovators and financial experts who deliver outstanding residential and commercial solar energy systems and LED lighting solutions of all shapes and sizes.

We strive for a thorough, consultative approach to every project. Our team of engineers, and installers can develop, finance, and install energy saving solar solutions to meet your needs.

Businesses rely on Cedar Creek Energy to help deliver solar solutions that save tens of thousands of dollars and begin paying for themselves within a few short years.

***“We were approached by other solar companies. Cedar Creek Energy was more thorough, understood the challenges of a nonprofit, and had great solutions. We went with CCE because they were the best choice.”***

- Bob DeBoer, A Chance to Grow

Residential homeowners can reduce their electric expense by as much as 80% or more per year by working with our qualified solar project managers, engineers, and installers. Cedar Creek Energy is part of the future by setting the stage for a future using renewable energy and sustainable building practices.

**“At first, I thought the 30% Federal Tax Credit was more of a tax deduction; as in I could deduct it on my taxes. I was thrilled to realize that the 30% was literally a tax credit. So based on the investment we made into our solar array, there was \$15,000 I didn’t have to pay the IRS!”**

**-Terrie S. Wheeler, Rush City, MN**

# OUR PROCESS



## FREE CONSULTATION

At this time, we sit down with you and gain a clear understanding of what you are hoping to gain from solar, the type of system you had in mind, financial needs and anything else that is relevant to an ideal project for you.



## FREE SOLAR AUDIT

We document existing equipment, review your bills, identify energy saving opportunities of which you may have been unaware. We will also provide a detailed schematic of what your solar system would look like using a computer-aided design program to generate a rendering of the solar array on your roof or as a ground mount.



## SOLAR SYSTEM DESIGN

We identify appropriate technologies, new equipment, energy storage and battery backup options, retrofits for lighting. In addition, we calculate your projected energy savings at 90 percent accuracy, research applicable tax advantages, and pursue rebate and grant opportunities.



## BUILD YOUR PROJECT

We specify your system equipment, apply for permits, install the system, program system controls and monitors, and coordinate interconnection with your electric utility.



## MONITOR YOUR SYSTEM

As a value-added, we test and optimize the system's functionality and monitor monthly usage. In fact, we set you up with access to a custom production monitoring portal so you can keep your finger on the pulse of the output of your solar system.



## OPERATE & MAINTAIN YOUR SYSTEM

We provide service support agreements to protect your investment and make sure you are maximizing your rate of return. We constantly monitor your system and will proactively contact you to schedule a service visit should any issue arise.

# COMMERCIAL SOLAR

Based in Coon Rapids, Minnesota, Cedar Creek Energy designs, builds, installs, and maintains commercial solar energy systems and energy efficient lighting solutions. We offer comprehensive customized clean energy opportunities, from turnkey commercial solar energy systems to customized engineering, procurement, and construction services.

## EPC SERVICES

You can hire Cedar Creek Energy to serve as the general contractor on your project. In this capacity, we will handle the engineering, procurement, and management of the construction services. The benefits of our EPC service is that you have one contract, one company, and one team of professionals committed to making your project a success. Through our network of reputable vendors, we source the highest quality materials at the best price. We ensure your project is delivered on time and on budget.

## COMMERCIAL LIGHTING

It only makes sense that if a company invests in a solar array, it will take the next step and install LED lighting. Cedar Creek Energy has handled scores of LED lighting retrofits, non-peak dimming solutions and other ways in which to leverage the investment made in solar. In addition, we offer LED lighting solutions to non-solar businesses as well to ensure the highest worker productivity, better directional lighting, and the elimination of flickering lights caused by inconsistent voltage.

## OPERATING & MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS

Cedar Creek Energy also offers O&M services to companies to ensure consistent performance and ongoing maintenance of their solar arrays. We optimize the solar system and ensure compliance with government and utility grid requirements. We also manage all preventative maintenance, routine inspections, wear and tear, and overall system productivity through our real-time monitoring. Our O&M services allow our commercial clients to focus on their mission and growth, while we ensure their solar system operates at peak performance.

## AT A GLANCE

### LAND PERMITTING AND SURVEYS

- Permitting

### SURVEY

- Preliminary
- Civil
- SWPPP

### FINANCING & REBATES

- Federal Investment Tax Credit (30%)
- PACE Program
- Xcel Energy Solar Rewards Program
- City of Minneapolis: Green Business Solar Projects
- Other Financing Options

### INTERCONNECTION WITH THE UTILITY COMPANY

### FRONT END CONNECTION

### EPC / O&M

# COMMERCIAL SOLAR

We have successfully completed more than 500 projects of all types and sizes. Following are examples of some of the commercial solar installations we have completed:

COMPANY NAME	ANNUAL KWH OF ENERGY PRODUCED	SOLAR PANELS INSTALLED
Crankshaft Supply	52,000	96 Roof Mount
K&K Recycling	252,000	664 Roof Mount
A Chance to Grow	52,000	124 Roof Mount
Fowler Electric	21,900	63 Roof Mount
City of Brooklyn Park Fire Department	49,000	124 Roof Mount
Playschool Child Care	23,700	60 Pole Mount
PJW Automotive	19,800	60 Roof Mount
Meyer Contracting, Inc.	41,900	124 Roof Mount
City of St. Cloud Waste Water Treatment Facility	328,000	792 Ground Mount
City of St. Cloud Water Treatment Facility	198,000	720 Roof Mount



# MANAGEMENT TEAM

Our management, operations, and project management team take a diligent, phased approach to each project, providing detailed recommendations and personal consultations at each step.

We ensure that the quality remains consistently high with our in-house team of experts. You will know who you are working with every step of the way. We are available to you and will involve you in our design, build, installation, and monitoring of your system at the level you wish.

That means if your goals dictate an end-to-end turnkey commercial solar energy system and you just need to know when the work's getting done, on budget and on time, that's what we'll do. If you want more of a day-to-day partnership, we are all-in. Or maybe you are a large firm that doesn't have expertise or staff in an area of engineering, procurement, or construction, and want a company that can seamlessly integrate into your overall plans. That would be us. Or maybe you need your brand-new 3-million-dollar solar array monitored, serviced, and maintained. That would be us, too.



**ROB APPELHOF**  
**PRESIDENT, CEO**

Rob Appelhof founded Cedar Creek Energy in 2007. His vision and entrepreneurial spirit, focus, competitiveness, honesty, and expertise helped grow the small Minnesota solar contractor of 2007 into a leading developer of commercial and residential solar power systems in MN today.



**MATT STUPNIK**  
**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

Matt's strategic vision and excellent business and science background has helped grow Cedar Creek Energy from a small operation to the thriving enterprise CCE is today. Being Chief Operating officer of a sustainable clean energy company is a dream come true for Matt. His Bachelor of Science in Communications and a Master's degree in Business Administration simply enhance his ability to be an outstanding leader in the renewable energy industry.



**ALEX GAST**  
**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

Cedar Creek Solar Energy's Director of Operations, Alex Gast, has got you covered. A member of our company's leadership and strategic development team, Alex makes sure that everything is going according to plan, while simultaneously visioning the long-term sustainable growth of our organization. Alex joined CCE with over 10 years experience in the construction industry and a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management from South Dakota State University.



**PATRICK FARNHAM**  
**PROJECT MANAGER**

Patrick Farnham has always known he wanted a career where he could help people and the environment. He's found that in his role as a Project Manager for Cedar Creek Energy. Patrick oversees both residential and commercial solar installations for the company. He specializes in solar project management, utility interconnections, and solar rebate applications. Prior to beginning his green career, Patrick studied environmental action and leadership at Loyola University. Patrick views each solar installation as another opportunity to dig into the details and see each project through from start to finish.



**RICK TISDALE**  
**SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER**

Designing a solar array is fairly simple, says CCE's senior project engineer Rick Tisdale – if you really know what you're doing. The challenge, however, is to design commercial, industrial, nonprofit, or residential solar power systems in Minnesota that maximize the financial benefits for the client. With a degree in Aeronautical Engineering and a background in finance, with Rick, you have a powerhouse who understands the moving pieces necessary to create a sustainable solar energy system good for the bottom line of each client. A frequent speaker at schools and universities on the subject of renewable energy, Rick enjoys sharing what renewable energy can do for our future.



**VISHAKHA KOKATE**  
**PROJECT COORDINATOR**

Vishakha Kokate is no stranger to innovative, problem-solving construction and design. Vishakha has been working in the construction industry for several years, and she has experience in multiple roles that benefit her in her current position as Project Coordinator. Vishakha has a Master's in Project Management in Construction from the University of Salford in the United Kingdom and a Master's in Construction Management from North Dakota State University.



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**“The greatest success I have had is taking this company from an idea to a sought-after solar energy developer. I always want to be on the leading edge, so we can offer the best solutions to our clients.”**

- Rob Appelhof, CEO, Owner

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