

Management of End of Life Solar Panels

Context

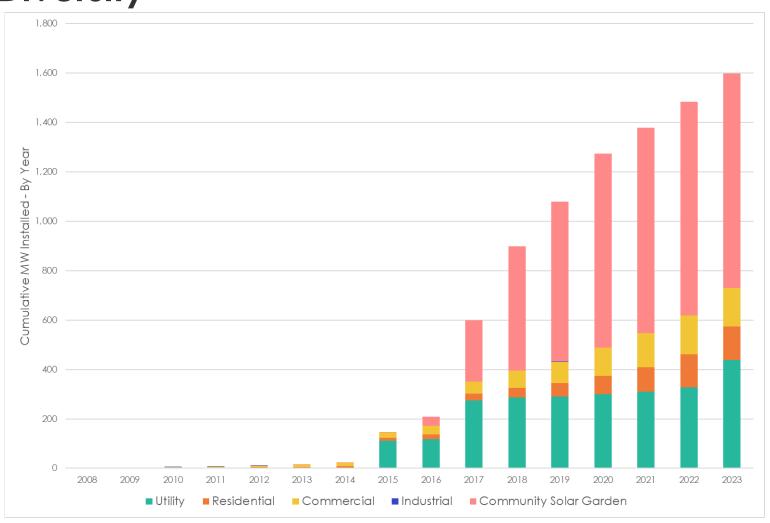
- In 2024 Eunomia was commissioned by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to analyze the cost effectiveness of different policy measures to handle end of life solar panels.
- Eunomia undertook an 8-month project which included stakeholder outreach, quantitative modelling and report writing which was then submitted to the Minnesota legislature





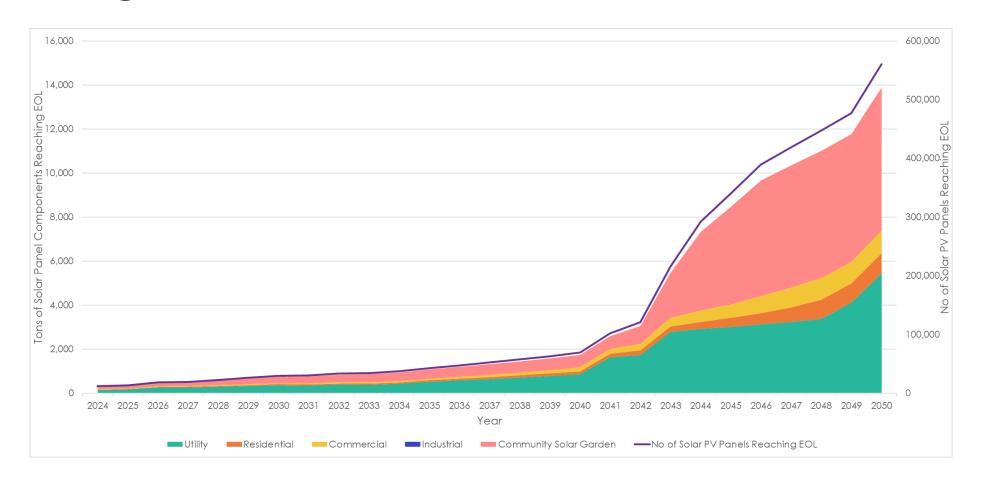
Minnesota End of Life Solar Panel Generation – Showcasing Installation Diversity

- Most common installations were Community Solar Garden (CSG) and utility installations
- Small scale residential and commercial arrays also important to consider





Diverse installations lead to mix of end-of-life arrays – accelerating in 2040

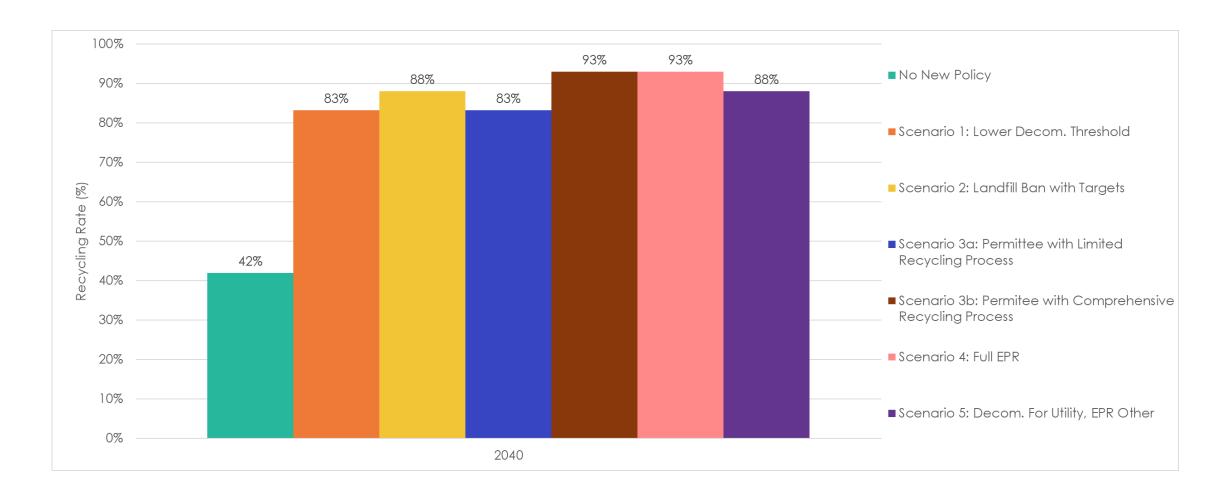




Diversity of End of Life Requires Diversity of Solutions

	No New Policy	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5
Short Description	No policy except existing	Lower Decomm threshold	Lower Decomm threshold	Permittee/Owner pays; Decomm	Full EPR to manage all panels; Decomm	Decomm/recycle reqmts for utility only,
	decommissioning	w/recycling	w/recycling reqmt;	reqmts >1MW,	reqmts >1MW;	EPR for all other
	(>50MW)	requirement (e.g.	Disposal ban for all;	Disposal ban and	Disposal ban and	installations; disposal
		>1MW); Disposal ban	recycling targets	recycling	recycling	ban for all
		for all	<1MW	requirements for all	requirements for all	
By Sector						
Utility	Decommissioning	Decommissioning/	Decommissioning/	Decommissioning/	Full EPR and	Decommission/
	(>50MW)	recycling >1MW;	recycling >1MW	recycling >1MW	Decommissioning (All	recycling >1MW
		Disposal ban			Capacity)	
Residential	No New Policy	Disposal ban	Landfill Ban with	Permittee	EPR	EPR
			Targets			
Commercial	No New Policy	Disposal ban	Landfill Ban with	Permittee	EPR	EPR
			Targets			
Industrial	Decommissioning	Decommissioning/		Decommissioning/	EPR	EPR
	(>50MW)	recycling >1MW		recycling >1MW;		
				Permittee		
Community Solar	No New Policy	Disposal ban	Decommissioning/	Decommissioning/	EPR	EPR
Garden		Decommissioning/	recycling >1MW	recycling >1MW;		
		recycling >1MW	Landfill Ban with	Permittee		
			Targets			iii aun

High Recycling Achievable under Scenarios with Policy







Thank You



About Eunomia

Eunomia is an independent sustainability consultancy driven by a genuine passion to make a positive change to the clients we work with and the communities they operate in. Founded in 2001, we have been pioneers in the sector - early advocates for helping NGOs as well as leading public and private sector organisations in the UK and overseas to adapt their approach and adopt more sustainable processes.

Our consultants are experts in the field, deeply immersed in the subject with the technical knowledge and skill to offer clients innovative, clear and practical recommendations. We are committed to finding solutions to better protect the planet, while supporting the wider aims and needs of our clients.

Each client is treated as an individual, with consultants taking the time to understand their objectives and how best we can support them. This personal service ensures a strong relationship is forged, based on honest and regular communication. It also ensures if these objectives change, there is the flexibility to adapt.

As an established leading independent consultancy, clients can have complete confidence that consultants will offer evidence-led solutions based on robust, impartial thinking that offer both pragmatic and positive outcomes.