



# ***Solar\*Rewards Community MN Application Manual***

***Version 2.0  
February  
2018***

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## 1. Introduction

A solar garden is a solar generation facility that is located in or near a community served by the qualifying retail utility. The beneficial use of the electricity generated by the facility belongs to subscribers to the solar garden, community members who have purchased shares of the facility. The solar garden can be owned/developed by a garden operator, the utility, or a third party developer. When the garden is not owned by the utility, the utility receives all of the generation and provides credit to the subscribers. Solar\*Rewards Community is the name of Xcel Energy's solar gardens program in Minnesota.

In this document you will find the steps to complete the application process for a Solar\*Rewards Community project. Further information can be found at:

[https://www.xcelenergy.com/working\\_with\\_us/renewable\\_developer\\_resource\\_center/solar\\_rewards\\_community\\_developer\\_resources](https://www.xcelenergy.com/working_with_us/renewable_developer_resource_center/solar_rewards_community_developer_resources)

You can also reach out to [SRCMN@XcelEnergy.com](mailto:SRCMN@XcelEnergy.com) at any point in the process with questions and we will be happy to assist you.

## 2. Application Form: Submission and Validation - *Submitting Application Form*

### 2.1. Overview

The application form is the first step to registering for a Solar Rewards Community Garden. All fields are required and must be filled out before the form can be submitted

#### Solar Rewards Community Program

##### Program

Program Type\* :

To participate in the SRC program with garden sizes larger than 40 kW, all applications should state "Solar Rewards Community – MN"

##### Garden Operator

Garden Operator Name\* :

Street\* :

City\* :

State\* :

Zip Code\* :

The garden operator is the parent organization group that is sponsoring the solar garden and its subscribers. It is responsible for funding and maintaining the garden itself. Each Garden Operator account will have a specific set of individuals who can log in and view solar gardens owned by this operator- this is known as the account team. Please note that this Garden Operator field will not necessarily be used as a match for legal documentation- that would be the System Owner.

If the same Garden Operator is applying for multiple gardens they should enter the exact same info in the Garden Operator and Primary Application Manager sections of this form on all applications. This will help to ensure that all gardens are visible and can be managed from a single username and password combination.

##### Primary Application Manager

Salutation\* :

First Name\* :

Last Name\* :

Phone\* :  -

Email\* :

Confirm email\* :

The Primary Application Manager will be the primary contact for the application process and ultimate decision maker for the Garden Operator. The phone number and email address provided here should match what is included on the Subscriber Agency Agreements in order to ensure ease of subscriber enrollment.

##### System Owner Information

Same as Garden Operator:

System Owner Name\* :

Street\* :

City\* :

State\* :

Zip Code\* :

Phone\* :  -

The System Owner fields populated here should match the entity which owns the organization per the SRC contract and other legal documents, including the Subscriber Agency Agreements

Solar Garden Information

Street\* :

City\* :

State\* : Colorado

County\* : Adams

Zip Code\* :

Garden Name\* :

Total System Cost\* :  (without commas or "\$")

Rated AC Power Output (sum of max AC output of all inverters in kW) \* :  (1 to 1000 kW acceptable)

Check to validate you are using original equipment.\* :

Estimated Completion Date\* :  (mm/dd/yyyy)

Will this garden sell all RECs to Xcel Energy or will this garden keep all RECs?\* : Sell

Please enter all of the garden information to the best of your knowledge at this time. System cost and estimated completion date can be estimated.

As of Jan. 1, 2017, all new garden applications must sell the RECs to Xcel Energy.

Array 1

Please note Array Azimuth cannot exceed 360 degrees; and Array Tilt cannot exceed 90 degrees

Mount Location: Ground

Tracker Type: Fixed

Azimuth\* :

Tilt\* :

NamePlate Capacity (kW DC) Array 1\* :

Add Additional Arrays (optional)

Send Forward    Print

The kW AC output and kW DC output should be reflected accurately. If the kW DC size later changes, the Garden Operator must notify Xcel Energy to make this change.

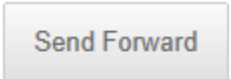
## 2.2 Information/Documents Required

- 1) Before beginning to complete the application, please make sure to review all requisite information detailed in this section.

All fields in the application are required. You will need the following information to complete the application:

- a. Garden operator address
  - b. Primary Application Manager contact information– Should be the same for Subscriber Organizations with multiple gardens and should match the email and phone number used for subscriber inquiries
  - c. Developer/system organization address
  - d. Solar garden address - The legal US Postal Address must be accurate and if this changes later on the Garden Operator must notify the Xcel Energy program team.
  - e. Total system cost (This may be an estimate and is only used for reporting expected values)
  - f. Estimated completion date (This is only used for reporting expected values)
  - g. Array information (Tilt/Azimuth)
  - h. Name plate capacity of your garden (AC and DC)
- 2) Once you have prepared the above information, you can find the application at:  
<https://www.xcelenergy.com/staticfiles/xeresponsive/Energy%20Solutions/Residential%20Solutions/Renewable%20Energy%20Solutions/Solar%20Garden%20Registration.htm>
  - 3) Enter the information as noted in the overview above:

- i) If you would like to print the application for your records, select  and a PDF will be created with your application information.

- ii) To submit your form, click . It is at this point that your application will be time stamped if applying for the standard offer program.

## 2.3 Next Steps

- 1) Xcel Energy will review the information provided on the Application Form. If your Application Form is approved, you will be granted access to the solar garden Application System where you will complete the rest of the application process.
- 2) Upon approval, you will receive an email within two days with your login information required to access the Application System. If your initial application is not approved by Xcel, you will receive an email with the reason, as well as instructions for next steps.

### 3. Application System Login

#### 3.1 Overview

After you complete the Application Form you will receive an email with credentials to log in to the Application System. The portal at the link below will be used to complete the rest of your application.

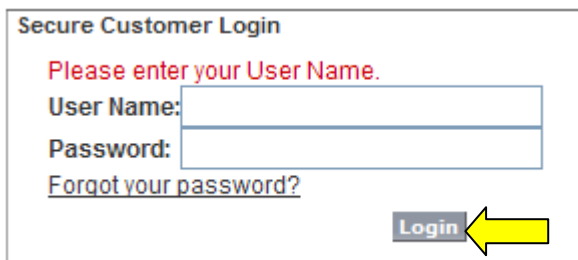
[https://na12.salesforce.com/secur/login\\_portal.jsp?orgId=00DU0000000HTSX&portalId=060U0000004ccR](https://na12.salesforce.com/secur/login_portal.jsp?orgId=00DU0000000HTSX&portalId=060U0000004ccR)

#### 3.2 Credentials Email

Upon initial submission, the system will send the primary contact an email with a user name and password for the Application System where the application will be completed. If you would like to link multiple gardens to the same username and password, send an email to [srcmn@xcelenergy.com](mailto:srcmn@xcelenergy.com).

#### 3.3 Logging In

Enter your user name and password provided in your credentials email and click login.




Secure Customer Login

Please enter your User Name.

User Name:

Password:

[Forgot your password?](#)

Login 



## 4. Application Step 1: Initial Application Fee and Deposit

### 4.1 Overview

After receiving your user name and login to the Application System you will need to submit your deposit and application fee via mailed check or wire transfer. Please mail to:

#### Checks

Xcel Energy  
Customer Receivables Solar\*Rewards Community MN  
P.O. Box 59  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-0059

Or

#### Wire transfer

Bank: Wells Fargo Banks, N.A.  
City/State: San Francisco, CA  
Routing/ABA: 121-000-248  
Acct No: 31966  
Acct Name: NSPM

**\*please include SRC # & payment type in wire notes**

In addition, you will need to download the deposit form and application fee forms from the SRC application system. After you fill out the forms and submit your deposit and fee you will need to upload the signed deposit form and signed application fee form back into the application. This section will help you submit those forms.

**Please Note: You will be required to submit the deposits and forms within 30 days of your application being completed and receiving access to that in the SRC application system.**

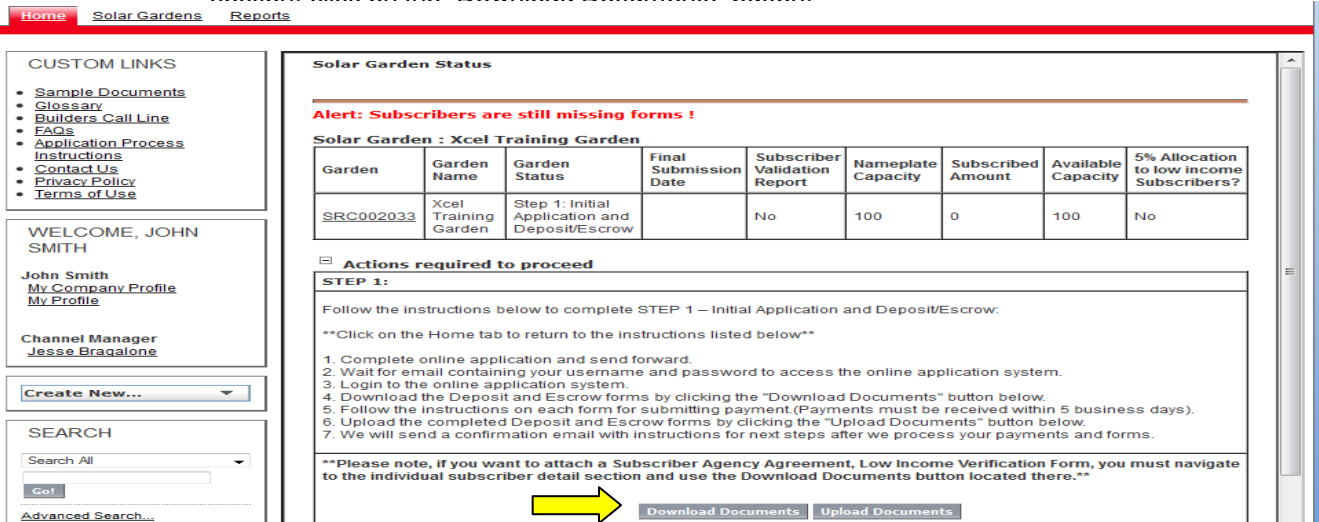
### 4.2 Information/Documents Required

- 1) The following documents are required to complete this section:
  - a. Deposit form - Form that accompanies deposit fee, signed by provider
  - b. Application Fee form – signed

### 4.3 Steps To Complete This Section

#### 4.3.1 Downloading Deposit and Application Fee Forms

- 1) From the Application System home screen, in the “Actions Required to Proceed” section. click on the “Download Documents” button.



Home Solar Gardens Reports

**CUSTOM LINKS**

- [Sample Documents](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Builders Call Line](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Application Process Instructions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)

WELCOME, JOHN SMITH

John Smith  
[My Company Profile](#)  
[My Profile](#)

Channel Manager  
[Jesse Bragaalone](#)

Create New...

SEARCH

Search All

Go!

Advanced Search...

**Solar Garden Status**

**Alert: Subscribers are still missing forms !**

**Solar Garden : Xcel Training Garden**

Garden	Garden Name	Garden Status	Final Submission Date	Subscriber Validation Report	Nameplate Capacity	Subscribed Amount	Available Capacity	5% Allocation to low income Subscribers?
SRC002033	Xcel Training Garden	Step 1: Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow		No	100	0	100	No

**Actions required to proceed**

**STEP 1:**

Follow the instructions below to complete STEP 1 – Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow:

**\*\*Click on the Home tab to return to the instructions listed below\*\***

1. Complete online application and send forward.
2. Wait for email containing your username and password to access the online application system.
3. Login to the online application system.
4. Download the Deposit and Escrow forms by clicking the "Download Documents" button below.
5. Follow the instructions on each form for submitting payment.(Payments must be received within 5 business days).
6. Upload the completed Deposit and Escrow forms by clicking the "Upload Documents" button below.
7. We will send a confirmation email with instructions for next steps after we process your payments and forms.

**\*\*Please note, if you want to attach a Subscriber Agency Agreement, Low Income Verification Form, you must navigate to the individual subscriber detail section and use the Download Documents button located there.\*\***

[Download Documents](#) [Upload Documents](#)

- 2) On the download documents screen select the "Download Document" button for the Deposit Form. A Deposit Form will open in a separate window/tab with your solar garden information already pre-populated.

Name	Download Documents
Step 1: Deposit Form	<a href="#">Download Document</a>
Step 1: Escrow Form	<a href="#">Download Document</a>
Step 4: Reservation Letter	<a href="#">Download Document</a>
Step 4: Interconnection Agreement	<a href="#">Download Document</a>
Step 4: Solar*Rewards Community Contract	<a href="#">Download Document</a>

- 3) [Go Back](#)

- 4) Repeat steps 2 and 3 for the Application Fee Form.
- 5) Print and sign your forms.
- 6) Scan and upload your forms to the application by following the process below.

### 4.3.2 Uploading Deposit and Application Fee forms

- 1) From the Application System home screen, in the "Actions Required to Proceed" section, click on the "Upload Documents" button.

Home
Solar Gardens
Reports

**CUSTOM LINKS**

- [Sample Documents](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Builders Call Line](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Application Process Instructions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)

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**WELCOME, JOHN SMITH**

John Smith  
[My Company Profile](#)  
[My Profile](#)

Channel Manager  
[Jesse Braagalone](#)

---

[Create New...](#)

---

**SEARCH**

Search All

  
  
[Advanced Search...](#)

**Solar Garden Status**

---

**Alert: Subscribers are still missing forms !**

**Solar Garden : Xcel Training Garden**

Garden	Garden Name	Garden Status	Final Submission Date	Subscriber Validation Report	Nameplate Capacity	Subscribed Amount	Available Capacity	5% Allocation to low income Subscribers?
<a href="#">SRC002033</a>	Xcel Training Garden	Step 1: Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow		No	100	0	100	No

**Actions required to proceed**

**STEP 1:**

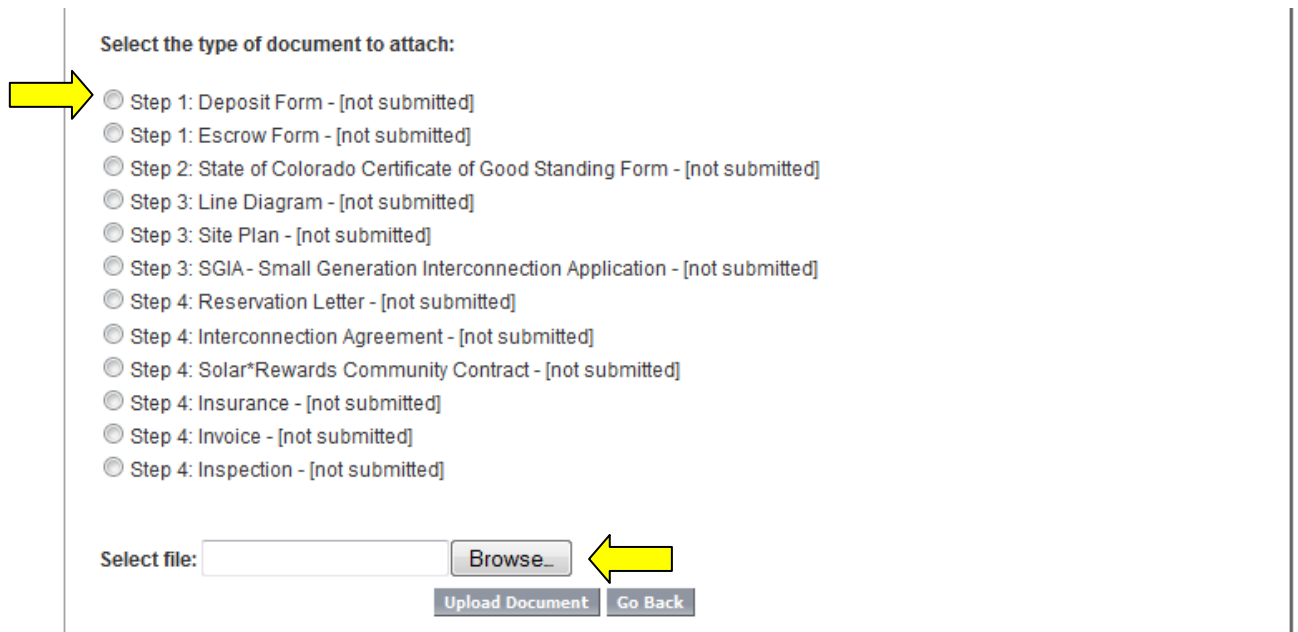
Follow the instructions below to complete STEP 1 – Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow:

**\*\*Click on the Home tab to return to the instructions listed below\*\***

1. Complete online application and send forward.
2. Wait for email containing your username and password to access the online application system.
3. Login to the online application system.
4. Download the Deposit and Escrow forms by clicking the "Download Documents" button below.
5. Follow the instructions on each form for submitting payment.(Payments must be received within 5 business days).
6. Upload the completed Deposit and Escrow forms by clicking the "Upload Documents" button below.
7. We will send a confirmation email with instructions for next steps after we process your payments and forms.

**\*\*Please note, if you want to attach a Subscriber Agency Agreement, Low Income Verification Form, you must navigate to the individual subscriber detail section and use the Download Documents button located there.\*\***

2) Select the radio button for Deposit Form. Click “Browse” to search for the file on your computer.



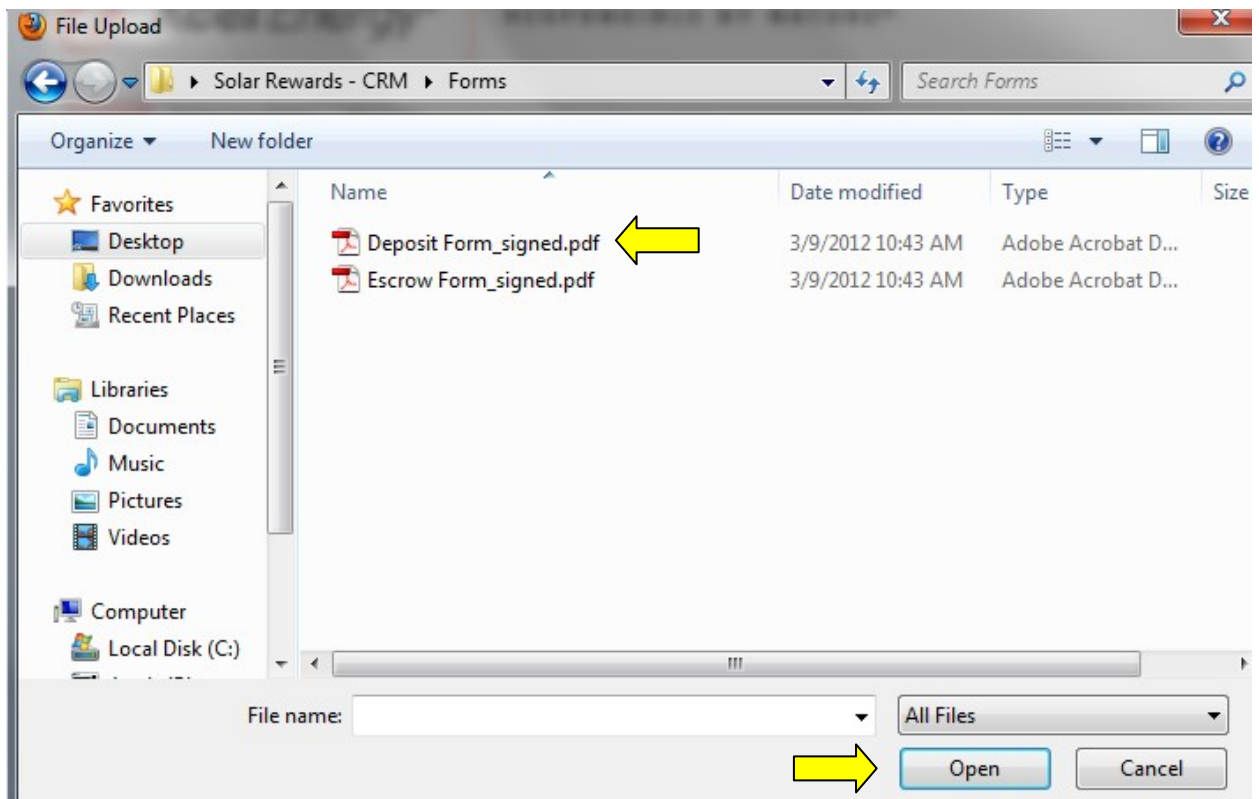
Select the type of document to attach:

- Step 1: Deposit Form - [not submitted]
- Step 1: Escrow Form - [not submitted]
- Step 2: State of Colorado Certificate of Good Standing Form - [not submitted]
- Step 3: Line Diagram - [not submitted]
- Step 3: Site Plan - [not submitted]
- Step 3: SGIA - Small Generation Interconnection Application - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Reservation Letter - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Interconnection Agreement - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Solar\*Rewards Community Contract - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Insurance - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Invoice - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Inspection - [not submitted]

Select file:

Yellow arrows point to the first radio button and the 'Browse...' button.

3) Locate the Deposit Form on your computer and click “Open”.



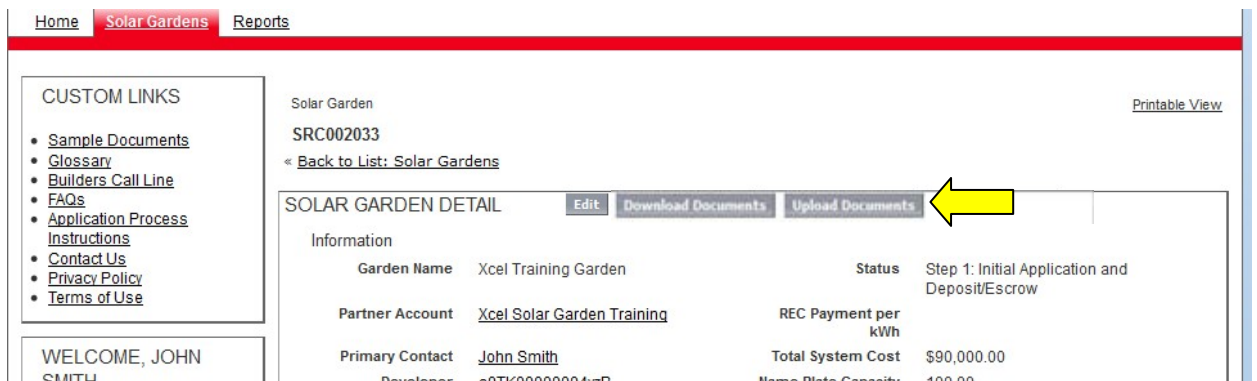
4) Click on the "Upload Document" button.



Step 4: Invoice - [not submitted]  
Step 4: Inspection - [not submitted]

Select file: C:\Users\jesseb\Desktop

5) From the Solar Garden Detail page select the "Upload Documents" button.



Home Solar Gardens Reports

CUSTOM LINKS

- [Sample Documents](#)
- [Glossary](#)
- [Builders Call Line](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Application Process Instructions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)

WELCOME, JOHN SMITH

Solar Garden SRC002033 [Printable View](#)

◀ [Back to List: Solar Gardens](#)

SOLAR GARDEN DETAIL

Information

Garden Name	Xcel Training Garden	Status	Step 1: Initial Application and Deposit/Escrow
Partner Account	<a href="#">Xcel Solar Garden Training</a>	REC Payment per kWh	
Primary Contact	<a href="#">John Smith</a>	Total System Cost	\$90,000.00
Developer	~0TV0000004~B	Name Plate Capacity	100.00

6) Repeat steps 2 – 4 for the Application Fee Form.

#### 4.4 Next Steps

Once your Deposit and Application Fee forms have been uploaded and payments have been received by Xcel you will receive an email with the next steps to continue the application process.

## 5. Application Step 2: Submission and Validation

### 5.1 Overview

You will need to upload a State Certificate of Good Standing from the Secretary of State of MN for the LLC listed on the application (the System Owner) at this time. This is required to move to step 3.

- 1) Similar to Step 1, please use the "Upload Documents" button.
- 2) Once this is complete, send an email to [SRCMN@xcelenergy.com](mailto:SRCMN@xcelenergy.com) to notify Xcel Energy of this submission.

## 6. Application Step 3: Engineering Review

### 6.1 Overview

The next step in the application process requires you to submit a Single-Line Diagram (and associated Grounding Calculations), Interconnection Application, Site Plan, and Engineering Study Fee Form, as well as an Initial Review Fee.

### 6.2 Information/Documents Required

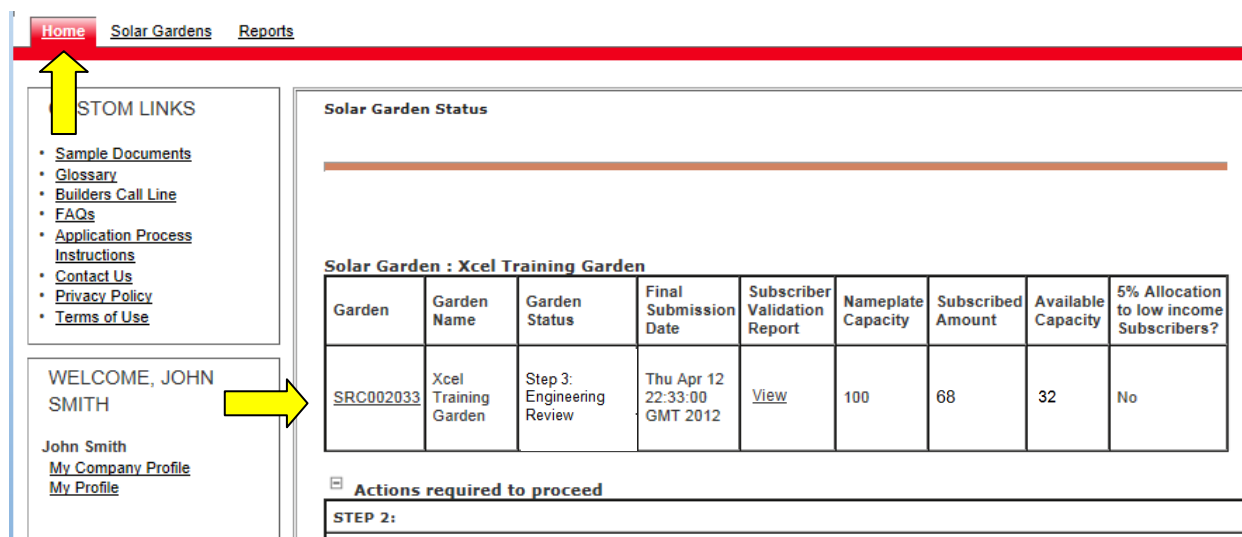
- 1) The following documents are required to complete this section:
  - [Line Diagram - Electrical one-line drawing detailing system metering and interconnection](#), which also includes [Grounding Calculations](#)
  - SGIA - Interconnection Application - Application for interconnecting to the Xcel Energy grid (this document is downloaded from the SRC Application System)
  - [Site plan - Drawing of site where system will be located, including details of the placement of panels, inverters, and meters](#)
  - Engineering Study Fee Form – Form that shows acknowledgment and payment of Engineering Study Fee (this document is downloaded from the SRC Application System)
  - Engineering Study Fee: this amount should be submitted to Xcel Energy based on the kW AC size as noted below:

kW AC	20kW	20-250kW	251-500kW	>500kW
Engineering Fee	\$100	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$2,000*

\*Additional fees for the full interconnection study will apply- this is typically a \$22,000 addition.

### 6.3 Steps To Complete This Section

- 1) From the Application System home screen, navigate to the "Solar Gardens" tab and click on the solar garden id.



The screenshot shows the application system interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for "Home", "Solar Gardens", and "Reports". The "Home" tab is highlighted with a yellow arrow. On the left side, there is a "CUSTOM LINKS" menu with various links like "Sample Documents", "Glossary", "Builders Call Line", "FAQs", "Application Process", "Instructions", "Contact Us", "Privacy Policy", and "Terms of Use". A yellow arrow points to this menu. The main content area is titled "Solar Garden Status" and contains a table for "Solar Garden : Xcel Training Garden".

Garden	Garden Name	Garden Status	Final Submission Date	Subscriber Validation Report	Nameplate Capacity	Subscribed Amount	Available Capacity	5% Allocation to low income Subscribers?
SRC002033	Xcel Training Garden	Step 3: Engineering Review	Thu Apr 12 22:33:00 GMT 2012	<a href="#">View</a>	100	68	32	No

Below the table, there is a section titled "Actions required to proceed" with a sub-section for "STEP 2:".

2) On the Solar Garden Detail page click on the “Upload Documents” button.

Solar Garden

[Printable View](#)

**SRC002033**

[Back to List: Solar Gardens](#)

SOLAR GARDEN DETAIL		Download Documents	Upload Documents	Application Step Detail
<b>Information</b>				
Garden Name	Xcel Training Garden	Developer	<a href="#">a0Tk00000004yzB</a>	
Partner Account	<a href="#">Xcel Solar Garden Training</a>	Expected Operational Date	9/14/2012	
Primary Contact	<a href="#">John Smith</a>	Total System Cost	\$90,000.00	
Garden Active Date				
Garden Expiration Date				
<b>LOCATION</b>				
Garden Street	789 Solar Garden Way			
Garden City	Boulder			
Garden State	CO			
Garden Zip Code	80013			

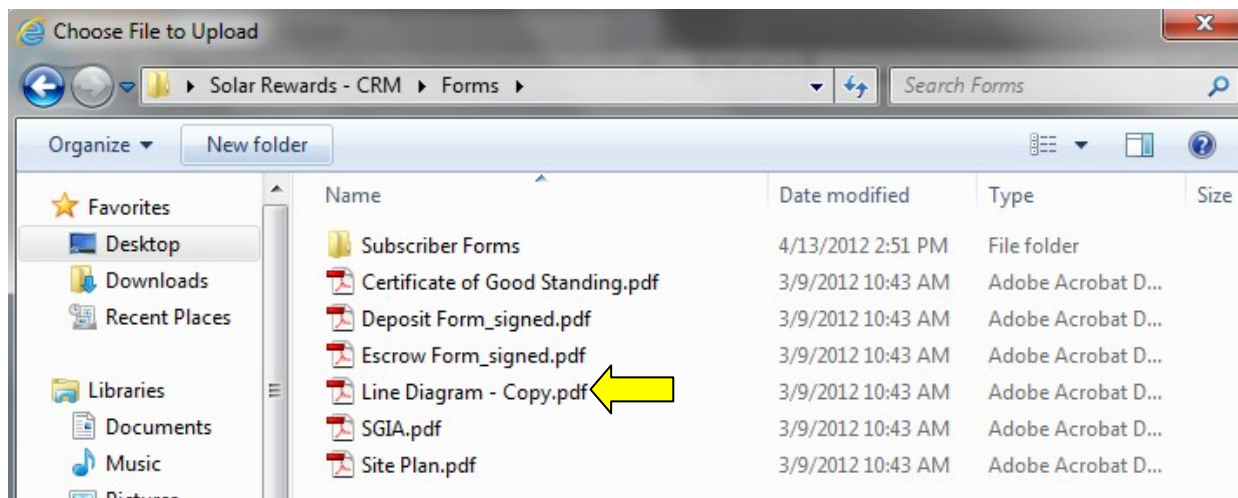
3) Select the radio button for “Step 3: Line Diagram” and click “Browse” to search for the file on your computer.

Select the type of document to attach:

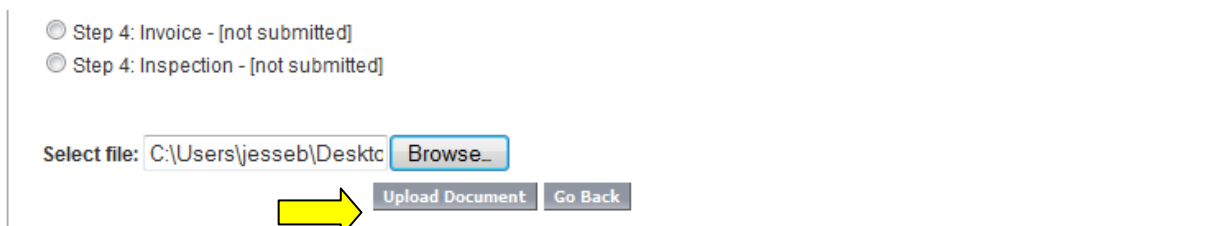
- Step 1: Deposit Form - [submitted]
- Step 1: Escrow Form - [submitted]
- Step 2: State of Colorado Certificate of Good Standing Form - [submitted]
- Step 3: Line Diagram - [not submitted]
- Step 3: Site Plan - [not submitted]
- Step 3: SGIA - Small Generation Interconnection Application - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Reservation Letter - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Interconnection Agreement - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Solar\*Rewards Community Contract - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Insurance - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Invoice - [not submitted]
- Step 4: Inspection - [not submitted]

Select file:

4) Locate the Line Diagram file on your computer and click “Open” to upload the file.



- 5) Click on the “Upload Document” button. Your document will be uploaded to the application.



- 6) Repeat Steps 2 through 5 for the Interconnection Application, Site Plan, and Engineering Study Fee Form.
- 7) Once you have submitted this documentation, please email [SRCMN@XcelEnergy.com](mailto:SRCMN@XcelEnergy.com) to notify Xcel Energy and request review.

## 6.4 Next Steps

- 8) Your line diagram, Interconnection Application and site plan documents will be reviewed by the engineering team at Xcel. This process may take up to 30 days and will result in approval or initial rejection of the submitted documents. You will receive an email with the next steps to continue the application process. If approved, your application will be “Deemed Complete” and your bill credit rate will be established.
- 9) Contact the builders call line to get account and premise numbers in preparation of having the service meter setup at the garden address.

Builders Call Line: E-mail: [builders.call.line@xcelenergy.com](mailto:builders.call.line@xcelenergy.com) Phone: 1-800-628-2121

More info at:

[http://www.xcelenergy.com/Energy\\_Partners/Builders\\_&\\_Developers/Service\\_Activation/Service\\_Activation\\_for\\_Builders\\_-\\_MN,\\_ND,\\_SD](http://www.xcelenergy.com/Energy_Partners/Builders_&_Developers/Service_Activation/Service_Activation_for_Builders_-_MN,_ND,_SD)



## 7. Application Step 4: Engineering Scoping Study

### 7.1 Overview

Once deemed complete, you will move to this stage, which consists of a 50 business day in-depth scoping study performed by Xcel Energy.

### 7.1 Statement of Work and Expedited Ready

- 1) After your project is deemed complete, Xcel Energy will have 10 business days to provide a Statement of Work and will request the additional study fee amount where applicable.
- 2) Once the Statement of Work is sent out, the developer must sign the Statement of work, pay, and submit any additionally required documentation. Upon submission of all this information, the project will be determined Expedited Ready. Per tariff, Expedited Ready must be reached within 60 days of a project being Deemed Complete.
- 3) Expedited Ready status determines your position in the study and Interconnection queue, which can influence both your potential to receive interconnection capacity and what upgrades you will be responsible for. Once you have reached Expedited Ready, your project must be completed within 24 months.

### 7.2 Engineering Scoping Study

Once Expedited Ready, Xcel Energy will provide you with study results regarding the interconnection capacity of your project, including both an indicative cost estimate and an executable Interconnection Agreement. This study process will be completed within 50 business days. Once Expedited Ready, you have 24 months to complete the project.

### 7.3 Interconnection Agreement Submittal and Payment

Once you have received your study results, you will have 30 days to execute and submit the interconnection agreement and pay the indicative cost estimate. You may either pay the indicative cost estimate in full immediately or submit 1/3<sup>rd</sup> payment and provide a Letter of Credit in the approved format for the remaining 2/3rds. Please reach out to Xcel Energy for further information on the Letter of Credit.

The interconnection cost estimate is based only upon the initial information submitted and study results. Actual costs may vary significantly based on changes in the design and construction stage and will be trued up at the end of the application process.

After payment and the interconnection agreement have been submitted, you will move forward into Step 5.



## 8. Application Step 5: Design and Construction

### 8.1 Overview

In Step 5 you will be able to design and construct your Solar Garden as well as submit subscribers who will receive bill credits once the solar garden is active. The design and construction process will typically take 6-10 months and varies based on the project. Step 5 happens concurrently with Step 6, which denotes the submittal of all Section 9 and Section 10 tariff required documents.

### 8.2 Design

1) Once your full interconnection payment and signed interconnection agreement are submitted, you will have an Xcel Energy designer assigned to your project. This process will typically take 2-4 weeks and the designer will reach out to the Primary Application Manager directly. The first step taken with a designer is to arrange a site visit to discuss your application details and establish an In-Service Date.

2) Your Xcel Energy designer will be your primary contact for all design-related details at this stage, and you should maintain consistent communication with them in order for your projects to progress.

3) Design will take typically 12-16 weeks, though may extend depending on changes you make to your project during this period.

4) As a result of the design process, your designer will provide you with an updated Detailed Design Estimate to indicate the new expected interconnection cost based on the further details solidified in design.

### 8.3 Construction

During the design stage you will also work with your designer and Xcel Energy's construction team to negotiate and lock in realistic In-Service Dates, or ISDs. The ISD consists of two separate events which will take place on different days: Energization and Acceptance Testing (also known as Witness Testing). These dates will determine your construction schedule.

***A full detail of the below process can be found on the [Developer Resource Page](#), labelled as the [Commercial Operation Process](#).***

1) Once your design is completed, construction will begin on Xcel Energy's facilities to allow for your interconnection. The Garden Operator will be responsible for construction of their own facilities to meet the same ISDs that have been agreed to.

2) At least 20 weeks out from your Energization date you should have coordinated with your Xcel Energy designer and Xcel Energy's metering department to order meters for your facilities. To order meters you will need to have your finalized Single-Line Diagram approved by Xcel Energy and your metering cut sheets uploaded to the SRC portal. Meters should be ordered at least 15 weeks prior to requested equipment installation date.

3) At least 3 full business days prior to Energization you will also need to have Insurance and the State Electrical Inspection signoff submitted to and approved by Xcel Energy. Due to the timeline and multiple iterations that may be required for insurance approval, this should be

initially submitted at least 6 weeks prior to energization.

-Any amendments to the Interconnection Agreement, including updates to the address, garden operator entity, or exhibits should also be finalized and uploaded at least 3 full business days prior to the Energization date.

- 4) At least 3 full business days prior to Acceptance Testing, you must have submitted and received approval from Xcel Energy on the following items:
  - At least 5 unique subscribers submitted and valid in the SRC portal for each SRC
  - Witness Testing Procedures
  - At least 2/3rds of the Interconnection Cost Estimate paid
  - Signed SRC contract (this will come from the most current Section 9 tariff)
  - Signed REC agreement
  - Signed Reservation Letter (this can be downloaded from the SRC portal)
  - Any other requirements as outlined in the Section 10 tariff that may be outstanding. Please confirm with the program office at [SRCMN@xcelenergy.com](mailto:SRCMN@xcelenergy.com) that you are in good standing.
  
- 5) On the day of your Acceptance Testing, there will be verification by Xcel Energy of the items detailed on our [Guidelines for Large PV Acceptance/Witness Testing Document](#), found on the Developer Resource page. This list is not comprehensive but touches on each of the primary points. Further requirements are detailed in our [engineering blue book](#) and further items may be required by local authorities.
  
- 6) Once you have completed acceptance testing and if your site is approved, you will receive Permission To Operate (PTO). A letter granting PTO will be sent to you within 5 business days and dated to the day that all requirements were met. The SRC Contract will also be countersigned and returned to you within this timeframe.
  - In the instance that any outstanding issues are found with your site at either the time of your energization or acceptance testing, PTO will be withheld until corrections are made and demonstrated. This may mean rescheduling your energization and PTO dates to the next available slot. Please be aware that there may be a significant delay.
  
  - At the time of PTO, you may also receive further instructions, including a request that you verify your Xcel Energy Account Name and contact information (as set up with the Builder's Call Line) for future use during the production lifetime of the site. These details can be verified by contacting [BSC@xcelenergy.com](mailto:BSC@xcelenergy.com), Xcel Energy's Business Solutions Center. It is important that these are verified so as to ensure final invoices or refunds as well as ongoing notifications are sent to the correct entity.



## 9. Subscribers

While in the Design and Construction phase (or earlier), Solar Garden Operators should enter their subscribers into the SRC portal. This is a multi-step process that requires submission and approval of Subscriber Agency Agreement and Consent forms before subscribers are eligible to receive bill credits. This process should be begin as soon as possible.

### 9.1 Subscriber Agency Agreement and Consent form

- 1) To enter Xcel Energy customers as subscribers to the SRC program, a Subscriber Agency Agreement and Consent form (“SAA”) is required. The most updated version of this form can be found on the Developer Resource web page as well as in the Standard SRC Contract:

Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401  
 MINNESOTA ELECTRIC RATE BOOK - MPUC NO. 2

STANDARD CONTRACT FOR SOLAR\*REWARDS COMMUNITY (Continued) Section No. 9  
1st Revised Sheet No. 89

Attachment "A"

**Solar\*Rewards Community  
 Subscriber Agency Agreement and Consent Form**

The undersigned ("Subscriber") has a Subscription to the following Community Solar Garden:

Community Solar Garden Name: _____	Community Solar Garden Address: _____ _____
Community Solar Garden Operator: _____	Community Solar Garden contact information for Subscriber questions and complaints: Address (if different from above): _____ _____ Telephone number: _____ Email address: _____ Web Site URL: _____ Fax: _____
Subscriber Name: _____	Subscriber Service Address where receiving electrical service from Northern States Power Company: _____ _____
Subscriber's Account Number with Northern States Power Company: _____	Subscriber Mailing Address (if different from above): _____ _____

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(Continued on Sheet No. 9-90)

Date Filed: 06-19-17	By: Christopher B. Clark	Effective Date: 12-07-17	
	President, Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation		
Docket No. EG999/CI-12-1344 & E002/M-13-867		Order Date: 12-07-17	

- 2) The following are required fields for each subscriber:
  - a. First and last name of the subscriber.
  - b. Subscriber's 7 digit account number. (For example, if the customer gives you an account number of 53-1234567-0, enter the middle 7 digits, 1234567.
  - c. Subscriber's 9 digit premise number. (If multiple premises are to be subscribed, they can be included on a single form but must be submitted individually to the SRC portal). *Either*

*the premise or the subscriber address can be listed on the consent form, but the premise number will be needed to enter the subscriber into the SRC portal.*

- d. Subscriber mailing address
  - e. Subscriber's email address (optional).
- 3). Additional fields are required regarding the solar garden the subscriber will be enrolled with:
- a. Solar Garden Name- multiple solar gardens can be listed on the form, but the subscriptions to each must be submitted individually to the SRC portal
  - b. Solar Garden Operator- This must match the entity listed on the SRC contract and IA, and will be listed as the "Developer/Owner" in the SRC Portal.
  - c. Solar Garden Address and contact information:
    - The email address listed should match that given for the Primary Application Manager in the SRC portal
    - The phone number listed should match that given for the Primary Application Manager in the SRC portal

## 9.2 Submitting Subscriber Agency Agreements

Prior to entering a subscriber into the SRC portal, the Garden Operator must send their Subscriber Agency Agreement to the Data Request team- [DataRequest@XcelEnergy.com](mailto:DataRequest@XcelEnergy.com)

- Data Request will review and either approve or reject the Subscriber Agency Agreement, and provide rationale if rejecting
- The review and approval process typically takes 1-2 weeks depending on the total volume of items in review. Please do not send duplicate submissions or request status of review during this time period or it will slow down the review timeframe.
  - Due to this timing and the possibility of revisions being required, Garden Operators should have all Subscriber Agency Agreements submitted to the Data Request team at least 30 calendar days prior to Acceptance Testing
- Once Data Request has approved a Subscriber Agency Agreement, they will notify the Garden Operator. Please allow 1-2 business days after this notification for approvals to be processed so that you may enter the subscribers into the SRC portal
- Please note that Data Request is approving the Subscriber Agency Agreements as valid legal documents for Xcel Energy to share customer data with the entity listed on the form and for the entity to submit the subscribers. If the Solar Garden Operator information on the SAA is completed incorrectly, it may still be approved as a valid legal document but simply will not allow access to the solar garden operator

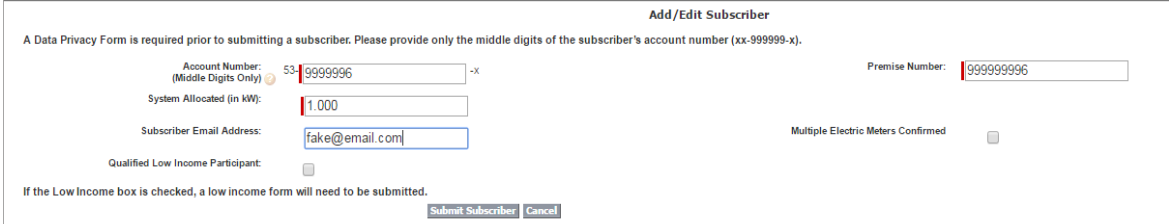
## 9.3 Submitting Subscribers to the SRC Portal

Once Subscriber Agency Agreements have been approved by the Data Request team and 1-2 business days have passed, you can log in to the SRC portal and enter subscribers by opening the SRC page for an individual garden and using the "Add Subscriber" button at the bottom of the page, above the Subscriber Allocations:

Subscriber Allocations										
Action	View	Last Name	First Name	Status	Premise #	Account #	Allocation (in kW)	Agency Agreement	Is Low Income Subscriber	Data Privacy Form
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">View</a>	Sub4	Larry	Valid	888888884	2222224	40.00	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">View</a>	Sub5	Julie	Valid	888888885	2222225	10.00	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">View</a>	Sub6	David	Valid	888888886	2222226	10.00	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">View</a>	Sub7	Mike	Valid	888888887	2222227	10.00	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">View</a>	Sub8	John	Valid	888888888	2222228	10.00	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓

[Show 5 more »](#) | [Go to list \(10\) »](#)

1) Enter the subscriber information.



**Add/Edit Subscriber**

A Data Privacy Form is required prior to submitting a subscriber. Please provide only the middle digits of the subscriber's account number (xx-999999-x).

Account Number: (Middle Digits Only) 53-9999996 -x

Premise Number: 99999996

System Allocated (in kW): 1.000

Subscriber Email Address: fake@email.com

Multiple Electric Meters Confirmed

Qualified Low Income Participant

If the Low Income box is checked, a low income form will need to be submitted.

- a. Enter the middle 7 digits of the subscriber's account number (xx-1234567-x).
  - b. Enter the subscriber's 9 digit premise number.
  - c. Enter the amount of kW that will be allocated to the subscriber in the system allocated field.
- Following are the parameters for this entry:

- The amount must be 0.200 or greater
- The total amount allocated to all subscribers cannot exceed the name plate capacity.
- Each individual subscriber's allocation cannot exceed 40% of the total name plate capacity
- The kW allocated to a subscriber as a portion of the total kW DC of a given Solar Garden will indicate what proportion of the total kWh produced by the garden will be allocated to the subscriber. You should ensure before entering subscribers that your kW DC specifications for the solar garden are accurate in the SRC portal.

- 2) Click the "Submit Subscriber" button to add the subscriber.
- 3) If there are any errors with the information provided or the SAA has not been approved, those will be listed for you at this point. Please see the document "SRC Subscriber Maintenance Guidelines" on the Developer Resource web page for a list of common errors, or contact [SRCMN@xcelenergy.com](mailto:SRCMN@xcelenergy.com) if you receive an error that you believe is incorrect
- 4) If no errors occur- the subscriber information will now be populated under the Subscriber Allocations section. You must still complete at least one more step and make the subscriber allocation valid in order for the subscriber to receive bill credits:
- 5) Click on "View" by the subscriber allocation listed to view the subscriber allocation page. On this page, you can use the "Upload Subscriber Agency Agreement" button to upload the SAA and change the subscriber status to valid

**Subscriber Allocation**  
**MN C&I Placeholder:999999996:9999996**

Subscriber Allocation Detail		Edit	Delete Subscriber	Download Documents	Upload Documents	
Status	Not Valid				Subscriber Agency Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>
Add Date	6/7/2016				Low Income Verification	<input type="checkbox"/>
System Allocated (As % of Total)	0.3571%				Data Privacy Form	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Allocation #	MN C&I Placeholder:999999996:9999996					
Multiple Electric Meters						
Multiple Ele Meters Verified	<input type="checkbox"/>					
<b>Validation Flags</b>						
Validation for 40% Rule						
Validation for County						
Allocation Over 120% Annual Consumption						
Minimum Allocation Met						
Valid Account and Premise						
Validation for Subs Agency Agreement frm	Missing Subscriber Agency Agreement form					
Validation for LI form						
<b>Solar Garden Information</b>						
Solar Garden	<a href="#">SRC042756</a>	Garden County	Brown			
Estimated Annual System Production (kWh)	1,543,250.5					
120% Allocation Threshold (in kWh)	10,080.0					
<b>Subscriber Information</b>						
Subscriber Name	<a href="#">MN C&amp;I Placeholder</a>	Low Income	NO			
Premise Number	999999996	First Name				
Debtor Number	9999996					
<b>Energy Allocation</b>						
Allocation (in kW)	5.000	Billing Allocation (in kWh)	5,511.61			
		System Allocated (in kW)	5.000			
		Estimated Allocation Greater than 40%	0			
		Edit	Delete Subscriber	Download Documents	Upload Documents	

Each of the validation flags above (the stop lights) should show green at the time of entering a subscriber- If any of these is red, that will provide insight into why a subscriber allocation has an invalid status.

Further information on the requirements for subscribers can be found in the [Subscriber FAQs](#) and Section 9 tariff.

### 9.4 Updating or Removing Subscribers

If you need to make changes to your subscribers after entering them, you can do so on the above page. Please note that if you edit a subscriber after entering them, this will be considered a new subscription, and you must meet all requirements based on the status of the customer at that time.

If a subscriber is listed as invalid they still contribute towards the limit of “subscribed kW” for a garden, so you will need to remove them before entering another subscriber to take their place.

## 10. Application Step 7 and Step 8: Application Completion and Continued Operation

### 10.1 Step 7: Application complete

This marks the period between meter installation and the completion of the first full month of generation. The application process is complete. Your application will remain in Step 7 until the first bill credits have been posted to subscribers' Xcel Energy accounts. This will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of the month following the first full month of solar garden energy production since receiving Permission to Operate. For example, if a garden receives PTO on January 15<sup>th</sup>, the first day of the first full month of production will be February 1<sup>st</sup>, and bill credits for February production will be posted on March 9<sup>th</sup> to customer accounts.

### 10.2 Subscriber Maintenance

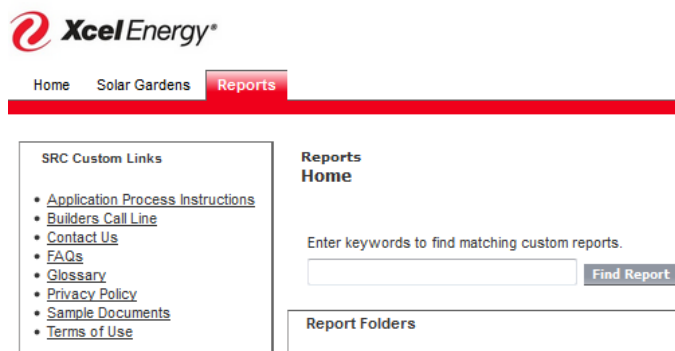
During the period of solar garden operation, the Garden Operator will be responsible for subscriber maintenance, including verification that subscribers remain valid in the portal in order to continue receiving bill credits. Courtesy notifications may be sent by Xcel Energy to the Primary Application Manager when subscribers go invalid, but the SRC Application Portal will be the system of record and the Solar Garden Operator should continue monitoring the portal each month to ensure validity.

For ease of review, the "Subscriber Allocation Summary" Report in the SRC portal will show your subscribers and their validity across all gardens in one place. To access reports, see section 10.3.3 below.

Questions may be directed to [SRCMN@XcelEnergy.com](mailto:SRCMN@XcelEnergy.com) regarding program requirements.

### 10.3 Bill Credits and Solar Garden Reports

- 1) Bill credits will be issued to subscribers who are valid in the SRC portal at the beginning of a given production month. Per the Section 9 tariff, subscribers should be entered and validated at least 5 calendar days before the beginning of the month. Bill credits will be issued based on the Section 9 Applicable Retail Rate or Value of Solar bill credit rate in place at the time of solar garden production.
- 2) Shortly after bill credits are posted to customers' accounts, they will also appear on the "Monthly Owner Report" in the SRC portal.
- 3) Reports can be accessed by selecting the "Reports" tab at the top left of the SRC portal screen. The applicable reports will be under the "Solar Garden Owner Reports" section of the page





- 4) On the Monthly Owner's Report, Solar Garden Production will appear listed in the following categories:

P: Total Production from the solar garden

OU: Overall Unsubscribed Production from the solar garden. Credits for this production will be paid out to the Solar Garden Operator as a bill credit on their Xcel Energy bill at the unsubscribed energy rate.

OS: Overall Subscribed Production from the solar garden

S: Subscribed Production- there will be a line item for each individual subscriber allocation to indicate the production in kWh allocated to the subscriber as well as their bill credit rate and the bill credit amount in \$ that was posted to the customer accounts. In the case of subscribers receiving the Enhanced Applicable Retail Rate, there will also be a second line item showing the same kWh production values for the customer but with the \$0.02 cent Renewable Energy Credit adder to compensate for the sale of the Renewable Energy Credits to Xcel Energy.

With reference to the kWh produced,  $OU + OS = P$  and  $\text{sum of } S = OS$ , not including the REC credits (which would duplicate the line items for subscribed kWh).

#### **10.4 Ongoing fees and responsibilities:**

- 1) During the course of solar garden operation, Garden Operators will be charged on their Xcel Energy account for the house-power their site consumes, as metering and other systems should be powered independently of the actual production from the site. Your bill credits will still be for gross production from your site and the charges will be separate.
- 2) Telemetry charges may also apply for the maintenance and operation of meters at your site(s). These amounts may vary on a site-by-site basis and will be charged monthly.
- 3) In addition, there is a \$300 per SRC annual fee for continued maintenance of your SRC application. This will be required each year after a solar garden achieves PTO and be charged to the operator on their February statement.
- 4) Once your garden is live, you will also be responsible each year for providing an Annual Report to Xcel Energy and all of your subscribers. Details on what is required for this report can be found in the Section 9 tariff and on the Developer Resource web page.

#### **10.5 Final Interconnection Cost True-Up**

Roughly 120 days after your first day of subscribed allocation (the first day of the first full month after receiving PTO), you will be sent either a refund check or invoice for the difference in cost between what you have paid for interconnection (based on the Interconnection Cost Estimate) and actual accrued costs. This amount and details on the final costs will also be posted to the SRC portal. You will be responsible for paying any additional cost amount within 30 days of receiving that invoice.

If your site is withdrawn from the process at any time after paying your Interconnection Cost Estimate, the true up will take place in a similar time frame, though 90-120 days after withdrawing your application in the portal.