RFP Questions & Answers
Minnesota Statewide Solar on Public Buildings Program
COMM-SP05-20260427

#	Question	Response	Posted
1.	If I have a park building with 25 kW of solar on it now (installed about 10 years ago) and I want to apply to install panels using SPB funds, is it okay to do that as long as the additional panels don't add up to more than 15 kW (40 kW total)?	Yes, system expansions are allowed, provided that the total solar resource serving the building does not exceed the lesser of 40 kW AC and 120% of the building's annual electricity usage.	5/15/2026
2.	Could the **Exhibit D: Grantee Budget Template** be provided as a Word document instead?	Yes, we have added a Word version of Exhibit D: Grantee Budget Template to the RFP page.	5/15/2026
3.	We have a question about the grant application's **Question 23. System Modules** — what exactly is Commerce asking for in the "rates capacity of the system's modules" section? Our solar module spec sheets do not list anything specifically called "rates capacity," but do have other metrics for power or efficiency.	For that question, please list the power rating in watts (W) of the individual modules that will be used in the project.	6/4/2026
4.	We currently have solar panels next to our City Hall, and we are planning for a new City Hall building. The solar panels cannot stay in their current location.	The program can only provide grants to help pay for the purchase and installation of a system. This means that the program cannot help cover the costs of removing an existing	6/18/2026

	Would we be eligible to have costs covered that are related to moving these solar panels?	system. However, if an applicant submitted a project budget that only pertained to the installation of a system that made use of pre-owned components (along with the purchase of new materials that would be needed for the install), then Commerce would consider the merits of an application on a case-by-case basis, such as considering the potential remaining lifespan of the pre-owned components. Applicants may also wish to review the cost-benefits of project alternatives, such as leaving the existing system in place as a continuing asset (if possible) and applying for a grant to help purchase and install an all-new system. Applicants may also consider the risks of components being damaged during the decommissioning process.	
5.			

6.			