harvest solar

SUBLETTE GRAIN CO-OP

GRAIN ELEVATOR
SUBLETTE, IL | CASE STUDY

Sublette Grain has successfully implemented a 502kW ground-mounted solar array. This initiative has resulted in $43,927 of annual cost savings.

AT A GLANCE

CHALLENGES

- Upfront Capital Cost
- High Power Demand
- Seasonal Usage Patterns
- Interconnection & Permitting

BENEFITS

- Illinois Shines Incentive Program
- Long System Lifespan
- Reduced Daytime Energy Costs
- Predictable Energy Expenses

"We're a growing elevator wanting to accommodate our stockholders and our local farmers making sure we're giving them the best services we can. This is helping to allow us to keep our costs down and just keep moving forward. It's helped out great."

REED AKRE
Manager of Sublette Grain

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Sublette Grain's Solar Success Story!

OBJECTIVES

Sublette Grain Elevator relies on large motors, conveyors, aeration fans, and drying systems to keep grain moving from field to market. These operations create significant energy demands, especially during harvest season, when equipment runs around the clock to receive, store, and ship crop after crop, often stretching across long days and even longer nights until the harvest is in. Sublette Grain needed a way to offset this demand, reduce operating costs, and gain more predictable energy expenses in an industry where margins can be tight and energy use is anything but optional.

SOLUTIONS

To meet that demand, Sublette Grain installed a 502kW ground mount solar array with Harvest Solar near its facility. Ground mount systems are well suited to agricultural operations like this, taking advantage of available acreage rather than competing for space on rooftops or near existing structures. The array is sized to offset a significant portion of the elevator's daytime electricity usage, especially during harvest when motors, conveyors, and drying equipment are running at full capacity. By generating power on-site, Sublette Grain reduces its reliance on grid electricity, resulting in lower operating costs and steadier, more predictable energy expenses for years to come.

FAST FORWARD

Estimated kWh Generation
This solar array has a nameplate capacity of 502kWdc and is estimated to generate approximately 674,290kWh per year.

Estimated Savings
The projected savings on utility bills over 30 years from this solar array amount to $2,707,235.

Estimated CO2 Offset
The solar array's estimated CO2 offset is equal to the emissions from burning 14,374,278 pounds of coal.

Estimated Financial Outlook
Sublette Grain has factored in a 30% Federal Investment Tax Credit and additional incentives from the Illinois Shines Program for this project to reduce the ROI to about 1 year.