

RREAL is a solar developer, designer, and installer; mainly in rural central and northern Minnesota. Our vision is over time to have a provable effect on reducing poverty, both directly with families and by growing jobs.

To achieve our vision, we need MN Power and other Northland utilities to increase their solar garden interest and commitments.

We have done six solar projects for schools. We combo these with bringing a solar curriculum (Done to State MN STEM standards) into the classrooms. These projects make so much sense; particularly for cash-strapped rural school districts.

\*\*More solar gardens and solar for schools would help a lot reducing rural poverty while growing the new clean energy economy we all know we are headed for.

Finally, please see the attached link. It is a Mapping for Renewable Collaboration project that we are doing with CURA and CERTS at the U of M. We are using it as a way to reach out to potential partners, map their interests like we did for MNDOT, and generate shared goals and projects. I think some of your members and staff might find it useful; particularly for quick checking how a number of utility, state, local, and tribal boundaries overlap.

<https://arcg.is/OfLDLa>

Thank you and best of luck today. John

**John Vaughn**

*Executive Director*

