

Subject Community solar
Authors Hansen and others
Analyst Bob Eleff (Energy)
Colbey Sullivan (Agriculture)
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Overview

This bill would allow retail electricity customers to subscribe to a community solar garden that is not located in the same county as the customer, or in a contiguous county, if the community solar garden has a minimum setback of at least 100 feet from the nearest residential property. It also would require the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) to study the potential economic benefits to farmers and local farm economies resulting from complete elimination of the contiguous-county restriction.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Community solar garden. Authorizes retail electricity customers to subscribe to a community solar garden that is not located in the same county as the customer, or in a contiguous county, if the community solar garden has a minimum setback of at least 100 feet from the nearest residential property.
2	Study of economic benefits to farmers and local farm economy; appropriation. Appropriates \$150,000 onetime from the general fund to MDA to report to the legislature by January 15, 2021, regarding the economic benefits to farmers and the local farm economy that would result from eliminating the contiguous-county restriction modified in section 1. Specifies study components.