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FIRST MINNESOTA SELF STORAGE FACILITY TO GET SOLAR

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EDEN PRAIRIE, MN – Metro RV & Mini Storage in Bloomington, Minnesota will flip the switch on their newly installed rooftop solar system next week. This project marks the first of its kind in Minnesota and paves the way for like facilities to integrate similar rooftop systems.

Perched on the roof of a single storage building is a 40kW photovoltaic solar system designed and engineered by Westwood Professional Services (Westwood). Westwood's director of solar energy services, Nathan Franzen, sees solar as a great solution to Bloomington Metro's energy needs, "Self storage facilities are ideal for solar energy installations. They have a unique demand curve, with most of their energy usage stemming from nighttime lighting. This allows them to produce excess power for the grid during the daytime and utilize off peak energy during the evening. This reduces costs for Metro Storage and alleviates peak loads on the grid during the day."

Installation of the system began in mid April and is expected to wrap up next week. Once complete, it will provide enough electricity to power approximately 60% of the Bloomington facility. Bloomington Metro's owner, Mike Seeland, is excited to power up, "Adding solar to our site was not only a good business decision; it communicates our commitment to energy independence and a clean environment. With the addition of our planned lighting retrofits, we hope to be 100% solar powered within the next few years. We look forward to providing our customers with a sustainable storage option currently unavailable in our state."

Partial funding for the system came from the Xcel Energy Solar Rewards program and the State of Minnesota Bonus rebate program.

About Metro RV & Mini Storage

Bloomington Metro RV & Mini Storage, provides drive-up self storage space for residential and commercial customers as well as paved outdoor storage for boats and recreational vehicles. A wide variety and selection of moving and packing supplies are also available on site. Bloomington Metro supports the Bloomington Community by providing discounted space to many charities and school programs such as the Jefferson Band and Jefferson Basketball Associations. Locally owned and founded in 1988, Metro RV & Mini Storage is one of the most well established storage facilities in the Bloomington Minnesota area. Metro has two other locations in Eden Prairie and in Mound Minnesota. To learn more please visit www.Metro-Storage.com.

About Westwood:

Westwood Professional Services, Inc. (Westwood) is a multi-disciplinary consulting firm providing complete and sustainable solutions to Land and Energy development clients nationwide. The firm provides solutions to support the development of projects from concept to completion. Those services include land surveying, aerial mapping, LiDAR, GIS, civil engineering, renewable system design, siting and land rights, planning, environmental, cultural resources, landscape architecture, transportation engineering, visualization, construction management, and NPDES & SWPPP compliance. Westwood was established in 1972 and serves clients across the country from multiple U.S. offices.

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