

Wisconsin Renewable Energy Projects 2016

Oregon School District Goes Solar

With the energizing of its 36-kilowatt (kW) solar photovoltaic system in April, Brooklyn Elementary School became the second school in the Oregon School District to source its electricity from the sun. Oregon Middle School had energized a 62-kW system last fall.



Between these two arrays, Oregon School District now owns more solar generating capacity than any other K-12 school district in Wisconsin.

According to **Sustainable Engineering Group**, a Middleton-based engineering firm specializing in high-performance building energy systems, the solar installations should supply about 10% of the electricity consumed at the two schools. Because Alliant Energy's net metering service has a ceiling of only 20 kW, the PV systems serving each school were sized to ensure that schools would use all of the power generated on-site.

Madison based **Full Spectrum Solar** installed both systems for Oregon School District, which provided 100% of the funding for the two arrays out of its capital budget.

Both Sustainable Engineering Group & Full Spectrum Solar are RENEW Wisconsin Business Members.

"We are proud to have worked with the Oregon School District to install their photovoltaic systems, which with strong leadership and forward thinking, they were able to make happen without the aid of federal or state incentives," said Burke O'Neal, Director of Full Spectrum Solar.

Dane County Continues Renewable Energy Leadership

Solar Power. Renewable Heat. BioCNG for vehicles.

Dane County has combined all three renewable energy solutions at its new Highway Garage facility southeast of Madison. On April 22, RENEW's Tyler Huebner took part in a press event with Dane County Executive Joe Parisi to announce the project.



The County currently produces electricity from methane at its landfill nearby. That electricity is sold to Madison Gas & Electric. Now the county is piping the waste heat to the new Highway Building - meaning the heating load is met with this renewable source. In addition, the building has 150 kilowatts of solar PV - enough to meet its annual electric load.

Plus, excess methane from the landfill is being converted to BioCNG (bio-based compressed natural gas) which will be used to fill up the county's new fleet of snow plows. A new medical examiners office building on the same campus will also have 64 kW of solar PV on it.

All told, this is one amazing confluence of renewable energy, and we applaud Dane County for its continued leadership!

Evergreen Credit Union Goes Solar

Neenah-based Evergreen Credit Union is on a mission to become the greenest financial institution in the United States. A momentous step was taken last year when Green Bay-based RENEW Wisconsin Business Member Eland Electric installed a 56-kilowatt, 196-panel solar electric system that nearly completely covers Evergreen's roof. The array supplies about 80% to 85% of the electricity on-site.



Photo Credit: Mark Hoffman

Read more in [a June 2016](#) article by Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reporter Tom Content.