ONTHEGRID

PROJECT: BRIGHTMARK RNG HOLDINGS LLC RECENTLY ANNOUNCED IT HAS STARTED DELIVERING GAS AT 10 RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS (RNG) PROJECTS AT FARMS ACROSS THE U.S. MIDWEST. BRIGHTMARK RNG HOLDINGS LLC IS A JOINT VENTURE OF A SUBSIDIARY OF CHEVRON CORPORATION AND BRIGHTMARK FUND HOLDINGS LLC.
SIZE: The Brightmark RNG Holdings LLC joint venture now owns and operates 15 RNG projects in the Midwest, a region that generates nearly 43 percent of the nation's agricultural products.
BACKGROUND: Brightmark's process for reducing methane emissions involves collaborating with farmers to produce RNG through anaerobic digestion. This process collects organic waste, digests it to extract methane, and upgrades it into RNG for use as transportation fuel.
BENEFITS: This milestone makes Brightmark one of the leading dairy RNG providers in the U.S., says the company. To date, Brightmark has reduced emissions by more than 1.2 million tons of CO_2eq through its RNG circularity centers, equivalent to the amount of carbon sequestered by planting and growing nearly 20 million trees for 10 years. Brightmark officials said they were excited to see these latest projects come online and begin reducing methane emissions while driving economic development in local communities. The projects demonstrate the scalability of these solutions and determination from farmers to reduce methane emissions in one of the nation's largest agricultural regions, says the company. "Implementing anaerobic digestion at our farm is not only environmentally sound but also economically beneficial," said Lynn Boadwine of Boadwine Dairy Inc., in South Dakota. "Additional revenue generated from the RNG we produce provides a viable and economic solution to address recurring waste and makes the transition toward a lower carbon intensity agriculture more attainable. It's a win-win."

PROJECT: VALLEY BETH SHALOM (VBS), SAID TO BE ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST VIBRANT SYNAGOGUES AND JEWISH SCHOOLS IN LOS ANGELES, HAS COMPLETED THE INSTALLATION OF AN APPROXIMATELY $1.24 MILLION SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT, MARKING A HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT AS THIS COULD BE CURRENTLY CONSIDERED THE LARGEST SYNAGOGUE SOLAR PROJECT IN THE U.S.
SIZE: The synagogue solar project includes the installation of more than 850 Q Cell rooftop solar panels by Sunistics Group and is expected to generate almost 615,000 kWh annually, reducing carbon emissions and yielding an anticipated savings of $180,000 per year.
BACKGROUND: This initiative was made possible through a combination of funding sources, including a $50,000 grant from the Jewish Solar Challenge, individual donations, an interest-free loan from Adamah's Climate Action Fund, significant incentives and rebates provided by the Inflation Reduction Act for nonprofit organizations, and financing by Beneficial State Bank. These sources allowed VBS to advance this project and set a powerful example for other religious and community institutions, says the synagogue.
BENEFITS: This new system is expected to offset more than 75 percent of VBS's historical Department of Water and Power kWh usage with a payback period of less than five years. This investment in clean energy aligns with the synagogue's mission to be a leader in environmental responsibility while ensuring long-term financial sustainability for its community, it says.

PROJECT: ENERGY SOLUTIONS PROVIDER AMERESCO INC. RECENTLY COMPLETED THE KILLEEN REGIONAL AIRPORT'S SOLAR-INTEGRATED COVERED PARKING PROJECT, IN KILLEEN, IN THE CENTRAL REGION OF TEXAS.
SIZE: The 1.2 MW project includes a robust solar energy component, featuring a solar array serving the terminal, a solar array for the rental lot, and a solar array for the short-term parking lot, along with an LED retrofit throughout the airport.
BACKGROUND: The project was made possible through a competitive grant process with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Terminals Program. The final scope of the project amounted to over $7 million, with a grant award of $5 million. This investment is estimated to offset 68 percent of the airport's purchased electricity, showcasing a significant step towards energy efficiency and sustainability.
BENEFITS: This initiative showcases a strong commitment to sustainability but also provides substantial economic benefits by reducing long-term energy costs, says the company. Additionally, it encompasses a comprehensive terminal lighting retrofit, replacing interior and exterior lights with energy-efficient and longer-lasting LEDs. To further enhance traveler convenience and accessibility, a covered pedestrian walkway has been constructed, seamlessly connecting the terminal to the rental lot. By integrating solar technology and energy-efficient lighting, this project not only modernizes the airport infrastructure but also delivers significant cost savings, says the airport. This marks the city of Killeen's first major solar project, and the city says it stands as a testament to city staff's proactive approach to environmental stewardship and a commitment to creating a greener future.