

Decarbonization: Veolia North America Breaks Ground On New Solar Energy Panel Array at Waste Treatment Facility in Arkansas

11/7/2023

The array will produce over 250 million kilowatt hours of electricity – enough to power 25,000 homes – and offset carbon output by 105,000 tons over the next 25 years, making it the only hazardous waste treatment facility in U.S. to be fully energy self-sufficient

BOSTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Veolia North America, the leading provider of environmental solutions in the U.S. and Canada, has partnered with Today's Power, Inc. to install a five megawatt (MW) single-axis tracking solar energy system at its hazardous waste treatment facility in Gum Springs, Arkansas. The solar array is expected to produce over 250 million kilowatt hours over the next quarter century, making the Gum Springs plant the only one of its kind in the U.S. to capture and generate as much power as it uses on an annual basis.

Veolia North America and Today's Power Inc. leaders break ground at the Gum Springs location where the solar project is being constructed. From left: Jayver Luque, Veolia Gum Springs General Manager; Derek Dyson, Today's Power President and CEO; Colby Wells, CEO of South Central Electric Cooperative; Britt Scheer, Veolia Gum Springs Director of Facility Affairs; Learon Dalby, Today's Power COO (Photo: Business Wire)

The solar facility will be operational by the fourth quarter of 2024. The electricity from the solar panels will be used to meet the facility's daily demands, with any excess going

to feed the region's main grid, leading to net zero output.

The project will make significant contributions to decarbonization, offsetting carbon emissions at the plant by an estimated 105,000 tons over the next quarter century – the equivalent of providing electricity for nearly 25,000 residential homes. Along with the solar installation, Veolia is taking several other initiatives to reduce its impact on

the environment at Gum Springs, including a plan to reforest nearly 1,500 acres surrounding the property to sequester carbon emissions, provide protection for local habitat and prevent erosion.

"This investment to bring clean, renewable power to our Gum Springs operation is a reflection of Veolia North America's commitment to environmental sustainability and leading the ecological transformation," said **Bob Cappadona**, President and CEO of VNA's Environmental Solutions and Services division, which oversees the Gum Springs project. "As a leading provider of environmental services to communities across the U.S., we have an obligation to ensure that the facilities we operate are equipped to limit our impact on the environment as much as possible."

"Today's Power, Inc. is pleased to work with Veolia and South Central Electric Cooperative to provide this 5MW solar facility to support their renewable energy needs. TPI will be building and operating this facility, and we look forward to a continued strong relationship with Veolia and South Central Electric Cooperative," said Today's Power CEO/President **Derek Dyson**.

Veolia currently employs 136 people at the Gum Springs facility, an increase from 61 employees when the company began operating in Clark County in 2020. The company expects to employ over 200 people at Gum Springs by 2025.

To make room for the new solar panels, Veolia recently cleared a 30-acre lot across the street from the facility. The cleared timber, amounting to over 4,300 tons of mixed hardwood and pine timber, was harvested for building materials which sequester carbon.

About Veolia

Veolia Group aims to become the benchmark company for ecological transformation. Present on five continents with nearly 213,000 employees, the Group designs and deploys useful, practical solutions for the management of water, waste and energy that are contributing to a radical turnaround of the current situation. Through its three complementary activities, Veolia helps to develop access to resources, to preserve available resources and to renew them. In 2022, the Veolia group provided 111 million inhabitants with drinking water and 97 million with sanitation, produced nearly 44 million megawatt hours and recovered 61 million tonnes of waste. Veolia Environnement (Paris Euronext: VIE) achieved consolidated revenue of 42.885 billion euros in 2022. www.veolia.com

About Veolia North America

A subsidiary of Veolia group, Veolia North America (VNA) offers a full spectrum of water, waste and energy management services, including water and wastewater treatment, commercial and hazardous waste collection and disposal, energy consulting and resource recovery. VNA helps commercial, industrial, healthcare, higher education

and municipality customers throughout North America. Headquartered in Boston, Mass., Veolia North America has more than 10,000 employees working at more than 350 locations across the continent.

www.veolianorthamerica.com

Veolia North America

Carrie Griffiths

carrie.griffiths@veolia.com

(781) 491-3117

Source: Veolia Group