



The Ocean County Utilities Authority

Helping to preserve the water resources of Ocean and Southern Monmouth County NJ

June 15, 2007 - OCUA Starts Solar Electric Generation

This week, the Ocean County Utilities Authority “flipped the switch” on a 200 KW photovoltaic solar system installed on the rooftops of two buildings at the Authority’s Central Water Pollution Control Facility in Bayville, New Jersey.



The system was installed by Lighton Industries of Lakewood, New Jersey under a \$1,463,000 contract awarded in April, 2006. The roof-mounted solar panels are now converting solar energy into DC electric power. The DC power is then converted to AC power which feeds directly into

the Authority's electric system. It is expected that this will reduce the electric power purchased from JCP&L by approximately \$50,000 a year. A monitoring system is connected to the Authority's process control computer which will track the performance of the solar system.

The cost of construction will be partially offset by a New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) Clean Energy Program grant in excess of \$600,000. Additionally, the Authority will also sell the Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) earned from the energy generated by the solar system. The Authority anticipates nearly \$100,000 per year will be generated from the sale of these SRECs. The Authority estimates that the system will pay for itself in about 6 years. This system adds to the 900 kW produced using engine generators fueled by digester biogas at two of the Authority's three facilities. The Authority will closely monitor the performance of this solar system installation to determine the feasibility of installing similar systems at other Authority facilities.