

Beefing Up Renewable Energy In Guelph

McGuinty Government Supporting Food Processors, Protecting Environment

NEWS

April 30, 2010

An alternative electricity generation plant fuelled by a unique renewable agricultural resource is in the early planning stages in Guelph.

Ontario is supporting engineering design activities for a proposed Anaerobic Digester Generation Plant. The technology will transform beef by-products from a local meat processor into a green energy.

The proposed plant would be built and operated by Guelph Hydro Inc. and located on city-owned land next to Cargill Meat Solutions' Guelph plant. The waste-to-energy facility would produce enough green electricity to power approximately 900 homes and create three new permanent positions at the facility.

This is part of the McGuinty government's five-year Open Ontario plan to create new opportunities for growth in the province.

QUOTES

"Projects such as the one we are announcing today help to support the good work of Ontario's farmers and food processors, build strong rural communities, and protect our environment. Investing in agricultural innovation is an important part of the province's new Open Ontario plan to create jobs and opportunities for Ontario families."

- [Carol Mitchell](#), Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

"Investing in green energy protects Ontario's environment and creates a healthier future for generations to come. This renewable energy partnership among the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Guelph Hydro and Cargill is an exciting step in the implementation of Guelph's visionary Community Energy Plan."

- [Liz Sandals](#), Member of Provincial Parliament for Guelph

"Having the provincial support to explore and develop alternative renewable energy projects, demonstrates the province's commitment to the environment. With this investment, we can generate clean, green energy for the community of Guelph."

- Mark Unsworth, Vice President, Business Development, Guelph Hydro Inc.

"Today marks the beginning of a new generation for the Ontario beef industry in doing its part to deliver safe, quality beef to valued consumers in the most environmentally sustainable manner possible."

- Matt Gibney, General Manager, Cargill Meat Solutions

QUICK FACTS

- The government is providing \$1,000,000 for this rural economic development initiative.

- Cargill Meat Solutions will sign a long-term agreement to supply the plant with beef by-products such as manure and other food processing by-products.
- This project would divert approximately 17.2 million pounds of environmentally sensitive materials from landfills annually.

LEARN MORE

Learn more about [bringing your renewable energy projects to life](#) in Ontario.

See how Ontario is supporting our [rural and northern communities](#).

Explore the City of Guelph's [Community Energy Plan](#).

Find out more about [Guelph Hydro](#) and [Cargill Meat Solutions](#).

Sarah Petrean, Minister's Office, 416-326-3861
Brent Ross, Communications Branch, 416-326-9342

ontario.ca/rural-news
Disponible en français