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## Press Release

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# Official Commissioning Ceremony Celebrates Madison County's 2.4 MW Solar Installation

County officials and project partners officially  
mark the installation of the 2.4 MW solar array.

Madison County, New York - RER Energy Group (RER) and our project partners, town officials and other local dignitaries gathered at The Re-Use Building in Lincoln, NY to officially commission the installation of the solar array located at the County's Buyea Road landfill.

The array, which consists of 7,752 ground-mounted, photovoltaic solar panels, was developed to supply energy to the county office building and county jail utility accounts. This system will produce more than 2.8 million kWh of lower-cost renewable energy annually. Over the projected 25-year term, the agreement will result in more than \$3 million in cost savings for the county and its residents.

It should be noted that these savings come at no cost to the county or its residents. Madison County is not paying for the installation or maintenance of the array; they are simply agreeing to purchase the power the array produces under a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

"Madison County is purchasing the power the solar array produces," Scott Ingmire, Director of the County Planning Dept. explained. "When we started this project, we anticipated it would cover about 60 percent



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of the county's energy needs. However, due to conservation measures and energy efficiency upgrades overseen by the county maintenance and the Board of Supervisors, we now anticipate it will cover approximately 73 percent of the county campuses energy needs."

The owner of the solar installation and the entity that will be selling the power to Madison County is AEP OnSite Partners.

"AEP OnSite Partners collaborates with communities, businesses and universities to put in place advanced, clean energy resources in a way that is both affordable and hassle free. This project allows Madison County to add risk-managed, affordable energy to help meet their power needs without requiring them to own or maintain a solar system," said Joel Jansen, chief operating officer, AEP OnSite Partners. "Providing advanced energy solutions, like solar installations, is the type of innovative, customer-focused approach that AEP OnSite Partners can provide to help communities be more sustainable."

The installation of the 2.4 MW solar array was made possible with a \$974,616.00 award from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) NY-Sun Competitive PV program.

Ian Palmer, CEO, New Energy Equity said, "The Madison County solar project is a pleasure to see completed since it represents over three years of development and engineering work by a team of dedicated individuals. This project had more than the average number of challenges along the way, and we're sincerely appreciative of Scott and his team here at Madison in helping get everything accomplished."

According to Mike Roach, Project Developer for RER Energy Group, "Madison County has a long history of innovation with regard to energy and sustainability. This project is yet another example of that creativity, whereby the county, at no cost to taxpayers, is able to leverage solar energy to reduce operating expenses while expanding the already substantial presence of clean, renewable energy in the region. When it comes to energy and sustainability in Upstate New York, Madison County is truly a powerhouse."



Madison County 2.4 MW Solar Array

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### **About RER Energy Group**

RER Energy Group is an industry leader in providing cost-effective, high-quality solar systems throughout the United States and Latin America. The company has developed more than 40 megawatts of solar energy, obtaining over \$40 million in grant proceeds for over 100 commercial, industrial, agricultural, municipal, and non-profit customers. For more information, visit [rerenergygroup.com](http://rerenergygroup.com).

### **About AEP Onsite Partners**

AEP OnSite Partners is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Electric Power (NYSE:AEP), one of the nation's largest electric utility companies. AEP OnSite Partners works directly with customers, developers and government officials to deliver energy asset solutions based upon market knowledge, innovative application of technology and deal-structuring capabilities. AEP OnSite Partners targets opportunities in distributed solar, combined heat and power,



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energy storage, waste heat recovery, energy efficiency, peaking generation and other energy solutions that create value for customers.

#### **About New Energy Equity**

New Energy Equity specializes in the development and financing of commercial and small utility renewable energy projects ranging from 200kW to 5MW. New Energy Equity works on renewable energy projects throughout the US to provide dependable financing resources for the development and completion of end-to-end renewable energy transactions. For more information please visit New Energy Equity's website: <http://www.newenergyequity.com>.

#### **About NYSERDA**

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), is a public benefit corporation, offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and funding to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Visit [www.nysERDA.ny.gov](http://www.nysERDA.ny.gov) for more information.