



Biogas Project Profile

Hometown BioEnergy

Le Sueur, MN

Owner: Minnesota Municipal Power Agency
Developer: Avant Energy, Inc.
Contact: Kelsey Dillon, 612-349-6868

Hometown BioEnergy (HTBE) is an 8 MW dispatchable, renewable generation facility located in Le Sueur, MN. The facility uses anaerobic digestion and is an important component of Minnesota Municipal Power Agency's (MMPA) commitment towards local, sustainable energy production. Three characteristics make HTBE a unique renewable generation asset:

- 1) Flexible feedstock supply – the plant is designed by Xergi A/S to handle a wide range of both solid and liquid feedstocks.
- 2) Dispatchable renewable generation – the plant has significant gas storage which allows the Agency to generate electricity during on-peak hours when electricity generation is more valuable.
- 3) Connection to distribution grid – the plant is connected to the City of Le Sueur's distribution grid, saving MMPA members money by avoiding transmission costs and reducing line losses.



Le Sueur, MN

Organizations involved: *Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, Avant Energy, Inc. *, Xergi A/S**

*ABC Member

Inputs and Outputs	
Feedstocks:	The facility accepts a variety of solid and liquid feedstocks from local agricultural and food processing sites including: sweet corn silage, FOGs, and other food processing wastes.
Products created:	The biogas is used to generate renewable electricity, heat and nutrient-rich solid and liquid byproducts.
Digestate management:	Liquid byproduct is stored in two lagoons and sold to local farmers as a nutrient-rich liquid fertilizer. Solid byproduct is separated from the liquid stream and dried using heat from the generators
Biogas generation:	The plant has the capacity to produce 8 MW of electric generation. The facility is also designed with approximately 950,000 SCF of gas storage to allow for dispatchable generation during on-peak hours when electric generation is more valuable.

Finances, Beneficiaries, and Expansion

Project financing:	The project was financed through municipal bonds and grant funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
Customer(s):	The electricity generated at Hometown BioEnergy is connected directly to the distribution grid for the city of Le Sueur, a member of the Minnesota Municipal Power Agency.
Long term plans?	Continuing to process new feedstocks and Working to maximize its revenue through its dispatchable strategy

Photos



Image 1 (left): Monorail crane

Image 2 (below): Dryer Room



Image 3 (left): An aerial view of the facility

Image 4 (above): Outside the facility