

GM announces 1.8 megawatt solar project in Ohio

October 25 2013



Constellation Energy installed these solar panels on the roof of the General Motors' 2-Mode Hybrid and heavy duty transmission building at GM's Baltimore Operations complex. The solar array will provide 9 percent of the energy to run the plant. Under a 20-year agreement, GM is purchasing all the energy created by the solar panels.

General Motors announced today that a 1.8-megawatt rooftop solar array

at its Toledo Transmission plant in Ohio would be completed next month.

The project, which will generate nearly 3 percent of the plant's overall electricity consumption, will be the largest rooftop array in Ohio. The [energy](#) produced will be enough to power 200 homes in the United States.

"Having 21,000 solar panels on Toledo's roof is a great visual representation of our commitment to [renewable energy](#)," said Rob Threlkeld, GM manager of renewable energy. "It proves to our employees and the people who live in and around Toledo that clean energy plays a significant role in the building of our vehicles."

Separately, GM was also recognized today by the Solar Energy Industries Association, or SEIA, as a "Solar Champion" at its annual awards luncheon at Solar Power International 2013 in Chicago. The award recognizes companies that significantly impact establishment of a strong solar industry in America.

"General Motors is already recognized as a worldwide leader in everything from innovation to corporate responsibility. Now it is helping to lead the way in the use of clean, affordable [solar energy](#) nationwide," said SEIA President and CEO Rhone Resch. "We're especially pleased with the 1.8 MW array in Toledo. This will be a boost to the company and protect our environment."

By the end of 2013, GM will have more than 40 megawatts of solar energy installed at its facilities globally, with two of the five largest rooftop solar arrays in the world located at its Opel Rüsselsheim facility in Germany and its Zaragoza Assembly plant in Spain.

GM's global solar footprint is equivalent to the size of 100 American

football fields.

"Rolling more solar into our manufacturing process is not only good for the planet, but it provides a boon for our bottom line, as well," said Threlkeld, referring to avoided energy costs.

Additionally, nine GM facilities have solar EV charging canopies on their grounds that employees and visitors can use to charge electric vehicles.

General Motors has 395 workplace charging stations at facilities across the United States, and has provided 4,300 EV charging stations to dealers.

Provided by General Motors

Citation: GM announces 1.8 megawatt solar project in Ohio (2013, October 25) retrieved 28 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-10-gm-megawatt-solar-ohio.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.