

Green Innovation Grant Program

Project Title: Cayuga County Regional Digester

Grant Recipient: Cayuga Soil & Water

Location: Cayuga County, NY

Green Infrastructure Practice: Energy Efficiency, Environmental Innovation

EFC Grant Amount: \$6,277,801

Total Project Amount: \$9,501,189

GIGP ROUND **1**



Project Completed 04/2012

Project Description:

Cayuga County, in New York's Finger Lakes region, now has a cutting-edge green facility which uses agricultural waste and manure to produce clean biogas. The new anaerobic digester helps manage regional waste sustainably, while providing a source of renewable energy which can supply power to the bio-gas/methane generation and handling system as well as to a combined heat and power plant.

As a demonstration project, the facility will help

test and promote regional anaerobic digesters suitable for other agricultural areas in upstate New York. Anaerobic treatment of manure and agricultural waste helps prevent the pollution of ground and surface water, reduces nutrient overloading into local waterways, and reduces the potential for pathogens to be released into the environment. The digesters also improve air quality and reduce the uncontrolled emission of greenhouse gas (methane) from manure.



The new digester facility is estimated to produce 5,475,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity annually, about half of which will be used to power the "District Campus," - home to several government agencies, including the Army Corps of Engineers, the Farm Service Agency, Cayuga County Water & Sewer Authority, and a Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) facility - with any unused power being sold to the grid.

