

Dunbarton Road Landfill Solar Array

Manchester, NH

A Commitment to Clean Energy in the Queen City

The Dunbarton Road Landfill in Manchester, capped for more than 20 years, had long been underutilized without a viable redevelopment option to utilize the near 12 acres of space. Given the nature of the soils and underground stability, only certain uses would be appropriate for such an area. One of those uses, a solar array that could help provide additional energy for the local grid, seemed like an option, but one that was hamstrung by local legislation that only allowed projects that could produce up to a one-megawatt (MW) of power. However, as the City of Manchester has progressed with more clean energy investments, adding solar power to the energy mix was something that the City had been after for years. Now, the new solar array, which can generate up to 3.3 MW of power, is the largest array in New Hampshire, and one that many hope to see as a model for other municipalities across the State.

At the beginning of the project, the main goals for Kearsarge Energy and the City of Manchester were to implement a development on a previously underutilized lot at the Dunbarton Road Landfill and support their goals for more renewable energy sources in the area. The fulfillment of these goals was realized in large part to the innovative partnership formed between the City of Manchester and Kearsarge Energy and Fuss & O'Neill as they worked with various entities, both public and private to achieve a successful project. With regulatory process and changing expectations around legislation that would determine the maximum size of the project, Kearsarge and the City showed their commitment to delivering a landmark renewable energy project and partnership. Now, this project serves as a reminder of forward thinking and teamwork, while bringing clean, renewable energy to the City.



BEFORE



CONSTRUCTION



AFTER

ACEC NH 2021 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Entry Category: Energy

Title: Dunbarton Road Landfill Solar Array

Submitting Firm: Fuss & O'Neill, Inc

Project Owner: Kearsarge Energy & City of Manchester

