



# Grid-Tie Solar Offset for Interconnects and Metering Stations

## Toward Achieving Net-Zero Emission Goals

### **Grid-tie Power for Interconnects, Meter Stations and more.**

**Solarcraft helps energy companies achieve their net-zero emissions goals with Grid-Tie Solar Installations on pipeline rights-of-way and metering stations. Installations are eligible for Federal Solar Investment Tax Credit.**

Since the 1980's, the oil and gas industry has used small scale solar power to operate electronics at remote sites where utility power was not available. Now, energy companies are installing large scale solar to operate electric motor-driven equipment and pipeline interconnect stations with renewable power, helping offset energy companies' carbon footprint.

In late 2021, Solarcraft began work on a collaborative project to develop grid-tie solar installations for a large energy company. This project is different because the solar electricity generated offsets four RNG meter stations, making the project uniquely 100% renewable. Through solar offset and RNG production, the energy company is working toward achieving its net-zero carbon commitment. Read the story. >>>

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## Renewable Energy Powering Renewable Energy: Utilizing Solar Power on TC Energy's RNG Interconnects

Solar energy to power TC Energy renewable natural gas (RNG) interconnects – meter stations that measure the amount of gas being transported – is helping the company to work towards our net-zero commitment while also enabling the company to sell renewable energy to the local utility.

“We have four RNG interconnects in Michigan and Iowa that will have solar arrays installed. Our first installation came into service at our Sandyview, Michigan” said Amjad Ismail, Interconnect Program manager.

The solar power generated at each location will help decrease TC Energy's carbon footprint by using 100% renewable energy to power the RNG interconnects.

“The idea for the Solar RNG interconnects came up last summer during a discussion about how TC Energy could lean into more energy options,” explained Ruba Ahmad, TC Energy's Business Development manager for U.S. Natural Gas.

“We learned that when RNG is associated with renewable power, it is considered more valuable because less carbon is used to get it to market. With this approach, RNG can be sold

for more money and, in turn, we can attract more RNG producers to move their gas. Investing in solar was a value-add both for producers and for TC Energy.”

### Working with Solarcraft to move from idea to implementation

To move the vision to reality, the solar panel installations were sourced through Solarcraft, a Texas-based company that specializes in custom solar power solutions. Jun Gao, TC Energy's project's engineer worked with Solarcraft's team, including Andre Scholtz, Solarcraft's technical director, to procure a solar power solution for four RNG sites. Working together, the companies settled on two designs of three fixed-angle solar array structures mounted to concrete anchor blocks matched to the geography of the RNG sites.

“Using anchor blocks means less ground disturbance, simplifying the installation and minimizing environmental impact,” explained Jun. Added Andre, “Our combined team created the two designs to minimize the solar panel footprint while maximizing electricity generation.”

The collaboration paid off with the entire timeline from idea to installation completed in less

than a year.

“A real asset in working with Solarcraft to achieve this timeline was how the solar components arrived on-site ready to be assembled and connected to the electricity grid,” said Sandyview project manager Leslie Ramos.

The on-site installation is also helping drive demand for Solarcraft. Todd Bermont, Solarcraft's Sales and Business Development vice-president said, “We are definitely seeing more business connected to net-zero initiatives. What TC Energy is doing with this project is contributing to the community and environment directly with reliable, carbon free-energy and we're glad we were a part of bringing their idea to reality.”

Ruba summed up the effort as, “TC Energy is here to solve energy problems, and pairing traditional forms of energy with new forms of energy allows us to explore business models and reflect what both our customers and communities care about. This project is just one example of how we're doing that.”

See full article at <https://www.tceenergy.com/stories/2022/2022-08-18-renewable-energy-powering-renewable-energy/>

