

Wampler's Farm Sausage

750 kW CHyP Electricity Plant

Background

Wampler's Farm Sausage of Lenoir City, Tennessee has a proud heritage as a family owned business since 1937 and supplies high-quality sausage to a growing market in most of the United States and beyond. Led by president Ted Wampler, Jr., the company became a pioneer and leader in renewable energy in 2011 when it installed a 500-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system on its grounds, the largest of its type in the state of Tennessee at the time. To further reduce its dependence on the power grid and advance its legacy of sustainability, Wampler's sought to supplement its clean energy capacity by adding another on-site application for electricity generation.

The CHyP Solution

To accomplish its long-term goal for off-grid, clean energy, Wampler's Farm Sausage connected with Proton Power, Inc. and its associate ARIES Energy to develop a unique custom energy solution. For the first time in a commercial application, Proton Power, Inc.'s innovative *Cellulose to Hydrogen Power* (CHyP) technology will utilize locally sourced switchgrass to produce hydrogen syngas, which will then be used to fuel gas engine generators to produce 750 kilowatts of distributed electric power.

Outcomes

Wampler's Farm Sausage achieves a return on its investment in CHyP technology through energy independence and protection from future electricity price volatility. The project carries an economic impact to the community not only in the construction phase, but also through the continuous demand for local switchgrass provided by area farmers. However, the realization of the project has impacts reaching far beyond Wampler's and the community of Lenoir City. The CHyP system powering Wampler's is the first of its kind in the world and commercially demonstrates the efficiency and economic feasibility of the technology. Furthermore, Wampler's CHyP Electricity Plant is a major milestone in clean energy innovation for the State of Tennessee and a catalyst in the development of its clean energy industry.

