

FACT SHEET

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Capital Partners Solar Project

Summary

Capital Partners Solar Project is a renewable energy project that generates solar power for the George Washington University, American University and the George Washington University Hospital. The project is comprised of 53.5 megawatts (MW) of solar photovoltaic (PV) power—roughly the amount of electricity used by 8,900 homes every year. It shows that large organizations in an urban setting can partner to significantly reduce their carbon footprints by purchasing offsite solar energy.

Partners

Customers: The George Washington University (GW), American University (AU) and the George Washington University Hospital (GWUH)

Supplier: Duke Energy Renewables (DER)

Partnership Facilitator: CustomerFirst Renewables (CFR)

Project Facts

- Capital Partners Solar Project is comprised of three project sites with a total capacity of 53.5 megawatts (MW) of solar photovoltaic (PV) power, which covers approximately half of the electricity needs of GW, AU and GWUH over 20 years.
- The buyers are retaining 100% of the solar renewable energy certificates.
- 243,000 solar panels at three sites in North Carolina generate 121 million kilowatt hours (kWh) of emissions-free electricity each year, taking normal PV panel degradation into account.

Breakdown by organization:

	Renewable power delivered/per year estimated (kWh)	Percent of project's power (%)	Est. percent of total electricity needs met (%)
GW	82,631,000	69	53
AU	28,617,000	24	53
GWUH	9,539,000	8	32
TOTAL	121,000,000	100	N/A

- Timeline
 - Summer 2014: Partners broke ground on the first solar panel site
 - January 2015: First power delivered
 - January 2016: Project fully operational

Benefits

- *Environmental:* In 2016, the project eliminated approximately 60,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to taking roughly 12,500 cars off the road or driving nearly 140 million miles. It generates enough emissions-free energy per year to power roughly 8,900 homes.

Breakdown by organization:

	Metric tons of carbon dioxide equiv. eliminated/ per year	Equivalence to number of cars taken off the road/per year	Equivalence to number of homes that could be powered/per year
GW	58,100	12,300	6,100
AU	20,100	4,200	2,100
GWUH	6,700	1,400	700
TOTAL	84,900	17,900	8,900

- *Financial:* The 20-year agreement provides fixed commodity pricing for solar energy at a lower total price than each institution's current power solutions and expected to yield greater economic savings as traditional power prices are anticipated to increase at a higher rate over the contract.
- *Economic:* The project created hundreds of construction jobs in North Carolina at each site.