

ACHIEVING ESG GOALS THROUGH RESPONSIBLE LAND USE

BACKGROUND

Hannaford Supermarkets, committed to fully powering their operations with renewable energy by 2024, became the single off-taker of the Shaker and Wells community solar farms. These projects, integral to Hannaford's sustainability strategy, encompass innovative land use, community engagement, and environmental conservation.

CHALLENGES AND SUCCESSES

- Land Transformation:** Shaker, located on a swampy area between highways, and Wells, situated on a former gravel pit, are prime examples of transforming challenging landscapes into productive community solar farms. Innovative solutions like hydroseeding and specialized construction techniques were employed to guarantee long-term sustainability and maximum irradiance.
- Local Labor Engagement:** Ensuring that 95% (Shaker) and 75% (Wells) of the workforce were local required dedicated recruitment and training efforts. This challenge was met through community partnerships and skill development initiatives in the areas of engineering, construction, electrical field, and site landscape maintenance. These efforts boosted the local economy.
- Sustainable Construction Practices:** The disposal and recycling of 14.11 tons of damaged solar panels and waste at Wells posed a logistical challenge. The partnership with Green Clean Solar provided a sustainable solution, ensuring that hazardous materials were safely managed and recycled.



FACTS



12.81
TOTAL MW



85%
AVERAGE %
LOCAL WORKERS



18.5M
ANNUAL KWH
PRODUCTION

IMPACT



13,111
CO2 EMISSIONS
AVOIDED
(METRIC TONS)



2,917
CARS OFF
THE ROAD

IMPACT AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Shaker and Wells projects have set a benchmark in responsible land use and construction practices, aligning with Hannaford's renewable energy goals, and contributing to their broader ESG strategy. These projects demonstrate how environmental challenges can be turned into opportunities for sustainable development, community engagement, and economic growth.

The successful implementation of these projects offers a replicable model for other companies looking to integrate ESG goals into their operations. The innovative use of compromised land, focus on local labor, and commitment to environmental stewardship exemplify a comprehensive approach to sustainable development in the renewable energy sector.

