

7.4 kWp Stand-Alone PV system in central Quebec

Montreal, September 16, 2011 - Responding to increased demand for Off-Grid Solar Photovoltaic (PV) equipment, Matrix Energy Inc announces it has designed and supplied a 7.4 kWp Stand-Alone PV system for integration into an existing diesel generator power system in central Quebec.

The end user, whose facility is located in an area not served by Hydro Quebec, wanted to reduce the pollution and costs associated with maintaining, repairing and operating (MRO) the generator by integrating energy storage and renewable power generation. Matrix Energy supplied the PV system in the summer of 2011, and provided technical support to the electricians who performed the installation and commissioning. The system was transported in sections to the installation site by helicopter.

The system supplied comprises forty, 185 Wp high performance Kyocera polycrystalline solar modules, Iron Ridge mounts, 18 kW (AC) of Schneider Electric inverterchargers and a DEKA Solar UNIGY II 116 kWh battery bank. Additionally, it is the first known deployment in Quebec of the new Schneider Electric 80A MPPT solar charge controller, capable of accepting up to 600 VDC on the input to greatly improve energy conversion efficiency, while reducing wire losses and overall cost. The PV array will generate an estimated 8,000 kWh per year of clean solar electricity, and is expected to greatly reduce the diesel generator runtimes. The array will charge the system's batteries when sunlight is available, and the generator will automatically start should the batteries become overly discharged during extended periods of inclement weather or higher than normal power demand. PV / Diesel hybrid power systems in Off-Grid applications are gaining in popularity in remote areas. Such systems provide impressive ROI resulting from significant MRO cost reductions, while other benefits include reduction of noise and carbon emission pollution, improved overall system reliability and redundancy. "Rising fuel and transportation costs coupled with the reduction in prices for crystalline solar modules", explains Andrew Wilkins, Sales Manager (commercial & government) at Matrix Energy, "has created conditions whereby PV systems are now competing effectively against diesel for remote power right across Canada".



About Matrix Energy Inc:

Matrix Energy (www.matrixenergy.ca) works with building professionals, designers, architects and engineers in designing, specifying, and supplying different products for the sustainable use of energy. Matrix provides solar integrated electric systems for new and existing buildings to help reduce total dependency on conventional energy sources.

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