



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Dairyland Power Expands Renewable Energy Resources**

Additional “cow power” expected to energize 219 homes

LA CROSSE, WI— Dairyland Power Cooperative has signed an agreement with Bach Digester LLC to purchase the energy and capacity from a new anaerobic digester “cow power” facility located in Clark County (Dorchester, Wis.). Steven Bach, owner of Bach Digester LLC, is a member of Taylor Electric Cooperative.

The facility at the 1,200-cow dairy farm is expected to generate about 300 kilowatts of renewable energy, capable of powering 219 average homes throughout Dairyland’s four-state service area.

Cow manure is collected and heated in the digester tank, a process that creates methane gas. This biogas fuels a large engine to produce renewable electricity. The process also has additional environmental side benefits, minimizing animal waste problems associated with manure disposal on farms. The odor is reduced, and weed seeds and pathogens are killed during the digestion process, thus lessening the need for herbicides and pesticides on the farm. Another useful byproduct is bedding that can be used in the dairy.

Bach Digester LLC is the fifth dairy farm anaerobic digester providing “cow power” to members in the Dairyland system. “We continue to seek opportunities to expand our renewable resources and appreciate working with Steven Bach and Taylor Electric to bring this environmentally-friendly energy resource to our members,” said Bill Berg, Dairyland President and CEO.

With headquarters in La Crosse, Wis., Dairyland provides wholesale electricity to 25 member distribution cooperatives and 16 municipal utilities. A Touchstone Energy Cooperative, Dairyland’s service area encompasses 62 counties in four states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois). Dairyland’s generation resources include coal, natural gas, hydro, wind, landfill gas and animal waste. For more information, please visit [www.dairynet.com](http://www.dairynet.com).

Taylor Electric Cooperative, one of Dairyland’s 25 member cooperatives, is headquartered in Medford, Wis. The cooperative provides electric distribution to more than 4,300 rural customers located in parts of four counties (Taylor, Marathon, Clark and Lincoln). For more information, please visit [www.taylorelectric.org](http://www.taylorelectric.org).

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