

**SAMPLE  
MEASUREMENT AND VERIFICATION (M&V)  
PLAN  
FOR  
BOB'S FARM ANAEROBIC DIGESTER GAS (ADG) SYSTEM  
Agreement # ADG-XXXX**

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*Submitted to:*

**New York State Energy Research and Development Authority**  
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and

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*Submitted by:*

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The meters, dataloggers, other equipment, methods and procedures described in this sample plan are representative examples of what could be used on an ADG project. NYSERDA does not endorse or guarantee their validity for any specific site. The ADG applicant is ultimately responsible for selection of the equipment, methods and procedures that are most appropriate for their site's application.

## PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

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## Introduction

This plan describes the approach to monitor the performance of the anaerobic digester gas (ADG) system that is installed at Bob’s Farm (the “Farm” or the “Applicant”) to produce biogas and electricity. Biogas is used to drive an engine-generator to produce power that is consumed on site and/or exported back to the local utility. A monitoring system will be installed to measure and collect the data necessary to quantify the electric power produced by the engine-generator. The data will serve as the basis for payment of three (3) years of performance incentive payments, which the Farm has applied for under a Standard Performance Contract with NYSERDA based on a Total Contracted Capacity of 200 kW.

## ADG System Description

The digester system at the farm was designed by Anaerobic Digesters, Inc. With the addition of the new engine-generator, the site will operate two 200 kW synchronous engine-generator systems with piping and controls that are installed in a new pole barn near the digester. All the electrical loads at the farm have been consolidated into one new 3-phase electrical service in order to accommodate the interconnection of the generator system. The electrical system includes controls to synch the generator to the grid as well as a protective relay and controls to automatically isolate the farm from the utility grid in the event of a utility power outage. The facility does not have the capability to run grid isolated.

**Table 1. Biogas Systems Installed at the Site**

Digester	Anaerobic Digesters Plug Flow, Soft Cover, heated
Feedstock	Dairy Manure, 1000 cows
Engine-Generator	Biopower 2000 200 kW output on biogas 480 VAC, 3 phase
Biogas Conditioning	Mighty-Fine De-watering system
Engine Backup/startup Fuel	Propane
Heat Recovery Use	Digester heating
Additional Heat Recovery	None



Partially Installed Engine Skid

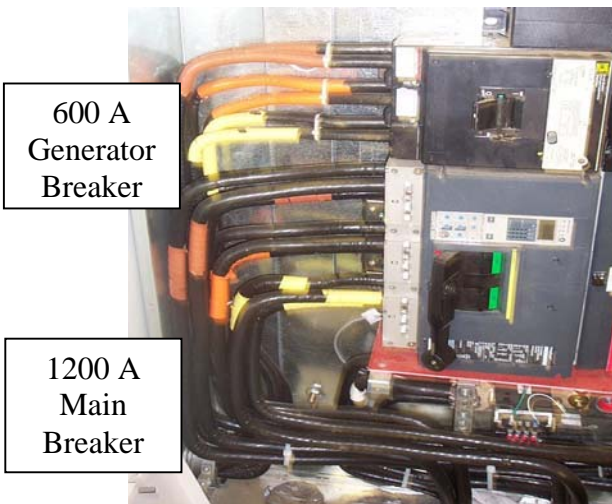


Biogas Conditioning Skid



Digester and Biogas Flare

**Figure 1. Photos of System Components**



Main Electrical Panel



Engine Control Panel

Location for WG Power Transducer

**Figure 2. Photos of Electrical Panels**

Figure 3 schematically shows the biogas system and engines. Biogas from the digester is either used in the engines or flared. (The biogas flare operates using a mechanically-actuated valve that vents biogas to maintain the digester at 1.5 inches of static pressure.) Biogas for the engine is de-watered and pressurized to 7 inches via equipment located on the biogas conditioning skid, which includes a variable speed drive (VSD) blower to maintain the 7 inch pressure set point. Only the new engine-generator will receive incentives through the ADG-to-Electricity Program.

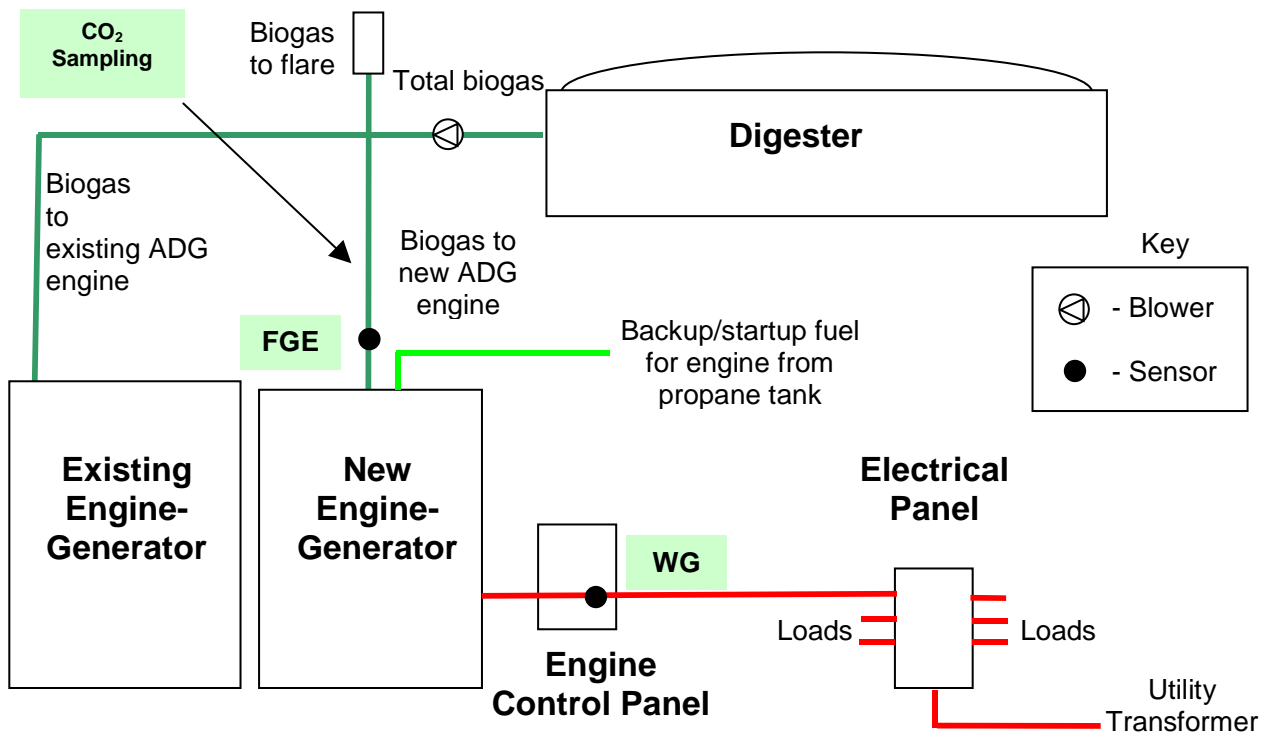


Figure 3. Schematic of Biogas System

## Monitoring System Equipment, Installation, Operation, and Maintenance

Figure 3 also shows the locations of the two data monitoring points which are used to measure system performance. A gas meter measures fuel gas input to the engine generator (FGE) and a power meter measures the kilowatts generated (WG). Information on these data points is shown in Table 2.

**Table 2. Monitored Points for ADG System**

Point Type	Point Name	Description	Instrument	Engineering Units	Expected Range
Pulse	WG	Engine-Generator Power (of new engine only)	Wattnode Model WNB-3Y-480-P w/ (3) CTs, 400 amp 10.2 Wh/pulse Dual Pulse Output (DPO) option with LCD display	kWh/interval	0-210 kWh/h  (0-52.5 kWh / 15 min)
Pulse	FGE	Engine Biogas Flow (to new engine only)	Roots/Dresser Rand Model 8C175 Meter temperature compensated to 60° F pressure = 7 inches 10 cubic feet per pulse	ft <sup>3</sup> /interval	0 – 5000 ft <sup>3</sup> /h  (0-1250 ft <sup>3</sup> / 15 min)

The electrical output of the new engine will be measured with a pulse-output power transducer (**WG**). This power transducer will include an LCD display and will be installed next to the electrical panel for the new engine by the electrical contractor. The transducer will be installed according to requirements in the “Wattnode Advanced Pulse Installation and Operation Manual” Rev. 2.34 (M5) (web links given in the Appendix). The meter will have its own circuit breaker or inline fuse to provide over-current protection on the voltage taps.

The biogas input to the engine will be measured by a Roots gas meter (**FGE**) that provides pulse output proportional to the volume flow that is compensated for temperature to 60° F. The Roots meter will be installed in the vertical biogas pipe feeding the new engine in accordance with the provisions of the “Roots Meters Instruments Installation, Operations, and Maintenance” booklet ICM:02 10:03 (web links given in the Appendix), as part of the gas conditioning equipment that is provided by the digester system vendor, Anaerobic Digesters, Inc. The pipe will have a parallel bypass line with appropriate valves allowing for continuing use of the engine should the meter need to be removed for cleaning or repair. The oil level of the meter will be inspected at least monthly. A log of maintenance activities for the meter will be maintained at the site.

The lower heating value for the biogas is estimated to be 550 Btu/ft<sup>3</sup> based on past measurements of the CO<sub>2</sub> content of the biogas. This value will be verified weekly based on measurements of carbon dioxide using a Fyrite Gas Analyzer Model No. 10-5032 for CO<sub>2</sub> range 0-60%. The Farm staff will perform the CO<sub>2</sub> tests and record the results in the project log.

The backup/startup fuel flow (propane) will not be continuously metered at this site. However, the Farm will provide the propane delivery logs and summarize them in a spreadsheet table for the Annual M&V Report in order to account for periods when the backup/startup fuel is used. The propane tank does not serve any equipment except the new engine-generator.

CDH Energy will install an Obvius AcquiLite datalogger to log the data from the two monitoring points listed in Table 2 (web links to datalogger details are given in the Appendix). The datalogger will be programmed to average or totalize data for each monitoring point for each 15-minute interval as appropriate. A record of all multipliers and datalogger settings will be maintained. The datalogger will be located in the engine room next to the control panel, and will be connected to an uninterruptible

power supply (UPS) to ensure the datalogger retains its settings and data in the event of a power outage. The UPS is capable of powering the data logger for at least one day. The Farm will provide a dedicated phoneline (or an Ethernet connection with fixed IP address) that will be used to communicate with the datalogger. The NYSERDA CHP Website Contractor (CDH Energy Corp.), will communicate with the datalogger nightly to extract monitored data from the datalogger and transfer the data to the NYSERDA CHP Website. If communications are lost, the Obvius datalogger is capable of holding at least 15 days of data.

The Farm will be responsible for the cost to purchase and install the power meter (**WG**) and engine biogas meter (**FGE**).

### **Management of Monitoring System Data (Farm/Applicant Responsibilities)**

The Farm will perform the following quality assurance and quality control measures to ensure the data produced from the monitoring system accurately describes system performance.

On a daily basis, the farm equipment manager (or other specified employee) will perform inspections of the digester and engine-generator equipment and record findings into the project log.

On a weekly basis, the farm equipment manager will perform inspections of the M&V meter installations and complete the routine maintenance on the meters, noting any abnormalities or unexpected readings. The farm will also maintain a weekly log of the cumulative power generation (kWh) and gas flow (cf or ft<sup>3</sup>) from the new engine in the event that data transfer to the NYSERDA CHP Website fails or other anomalies occur.

On a weekly basis, the farm staff will review the data available on the NYSERDA CHP Website ([chp.nyserda.org](http://chp.nyserda.org)) to ensure it is consistent with their observed performance of the ADG system and logged readings. The farm will review the data using the reporting features at the website, including:

- Monitored Data – Plots and Graphs and
- RPS: Customer-Sited Tier Anaerobic Digester Gas-to-Electricity Program NYSERDA Incentive Program Reports

In addition, the farm staff will also setup and use the email reports that are available at the CHP Website to help track system performance, including:

- a periodic email report summarizing system performance and the estimated incentive,
- an email report sent out if data are not received at web site or do not pass the quality checks

The website will automatically take the data collected from the datalogger and evaluate the quality of the data for each interval using range and relational checks. The expected ranges for the sensors (see Table 2) will be used for the range checks. The relational check will compare the kWh production data and gas production data for each interval to ensure both meters always provide non-zero readings at the same time (e.g., to detect if a meter has failed). Only data that pass the range and relational quality checks



The Farm will calculate monthly values for lower heating value of the biogas ( $LHV_{biogas}$ ), total energy content of the biogas ( $Q_{biogas}$ ), total energy content of the propane ( $Q_{propane}$ ), and adjusted kWh production ( $kWh_{adjusted}$ ) as follows.

Monthly Biogas Lower Heating Value

The readings of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the biogas gathered weekly will be used to estimate the average monthly Biogas Lower Heating Value using the following equation:

$$LHV_{biogas} = LHV_{methane} \cdot (1 - F_{CO_2})$$

where:

- LHV<sub>methane</sub> - lower heating value of methane  
(911 Btu/ft<sup>3</sup> at standard conditions, 60 °F and 1 atm)
- F<sub>CO2</sub> - fraction of biogas that is CO<sub>2</sub> (average of readings for each month)

Monthly Biogas Energy Content

Calculate the average monthly Biogas Energy Content using the following equation:

$$Q_{biogas} = CF \cdot LHV_{biogas}$$

where:

- CF - volume (cubic feet or ft<sup>3</sup>) of biogas in month

Monthly Propane Energy Content

Calculate the average monthly Propane Energy Content using the following equation:

$$Q_{propane} = Gallons \cdot \left[ 83,500 \frac{Btu_{LHV}}{gal} \right]$$

where:

- Gallons - propane consumption in the period (gallons)

Monthly Adjusted Electricity Production

Calculate the monthly adjusted electricity production using the following equation:

$$kWh_{adjusted} = kWh_{generator} \left[ \frac{Q_{biogas}}{Q_{biogas} + Q_{propane}} \right]$$

where:

- kWh<sub>generator</sub> - actual electricity production

In some cases, propane data may not be available on a monthly basis. In this event, the calculations to determine the adjusted electric production using  $Q_{\text{propane}}$  will be completed at the smallest possible interval (not greater than 12 months).

Reasonable Electrical Efficiency

The M&V Report will also provide a comparison of power output and fuel input for the engine to confirm their reasonableness. For instance the electrical efficiency – measured as power output ( $\text{kWh}_{\text{generator}}$ ) divided by the energy content of the fuel input ( $Q_{\text{biogas}}+Q_{\text{propane}}$ ) in similar units and based on lower heating value – should be approximately 25% over any interval for the engine generator on Bob's Farm.

## Appendices

### Cut sheets and Manuals for:

#### WattNode Meter Model WNB-3Y-480-P

<http://www.ccontrols.com/downloads/WattNodeWNBpulseDataSheet.pdf>

<http://www.ccontrols.com/downloads/WNB-Pulse-Manual.pdf>

#### AquiLite Data Acquisition Server – A7801-1

<http://www.obvius.com/documentation/Obvius/A7801Cutsheet.pdf>

<http://www.obvius.com/documentation/Obvius/A7801Manual.pdf>

#### Roots Meter Series B3: 8C175

<http://www.rootsmeters.com/internet/businessunits/flowcontrol/subunits/rootsmeters/MetersTechInfo.cfm?numPageID=1102>

<http://www.rootsmeters.com/internet/businessunits/flowcontrol/subunits/rootsmeters/iom.cfm?numPageID=5872>

#### Fyrite Gas Analyzer

[http://www.bacharach-inc.com/PDF/Brochures/fyrite\\_gas\\_analyzers.pdf](http://www.bacharach-inc.com/PDF/Brochures/fyrite_gas_analyzers.pdf)

<http://www.bacharach-inc.com/PDF/Instructions/11-9026.pdf>