

Press Release

Town of Berlin, MD Leverages MEA Grant to Augment Power Needs Through Solar Install

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SALEM, VA - In 2020, the Town of Berlin, MD partnered with Carter Machinery to install a 2MW peaking generator at their William Street power plant in an effort to save taxpayers on their electricity costs. Through the successful partnership that was formed on this project, when the town identified a relatively small, but strategic need for a solar installation within the town, they contacted Carter again. "Carter Machinery demonstrated through the power plant project that they could deliver a design/build solution that fit our specific needs, so they were an obvious choice when this initiative was identified," said Jeff Fleetwood, Town Administrator - Town of Berlin.

This particular installation features panels installed on a garage and neighboring building off Schoolfield Street. The estimated electricity to be generated is 65 MWh/year. "While this isn't a huge source of power, relatively speaking, it plays into our town's strategy for responsible and sustainable energy management," said Tim Lawrence, Director of Electric Plant Operations - Town of Berlin.

Cost of implementation was obviously a key consideration. The total solution came in just over \$122,000. However, through a fortuitous conversation with Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) Director, Mary Beth Tung, during the groundbreaking ceremony of the power plant project, a grant opportunity was identified. "We were able to structure the bid in a way that the entire cost of the implementation was covered by the grant," said Jack McKenna, Account Executive - Carter Machinery. "This meant no out-of-pocket cost to the town, which was a huge benefit."

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Once completed, the solar panel installation is estimated to generate 65.08 MWh/Year of power for the town.

About the Town of Berlin, MD

Located on the Delmarva Peninsula in Worcester County, Maryland, the quaint town of Berlin is only eight miles from nearby Ocean City. In 2014, the town was voted "America's Coolest Small Town" in a nationwide contest sponsored by Budget Travel Magazine. With a population of approximately 4,700, Berlin has been the setting for two major motion pictures. In 1998, Berlin was the location for the filming of "Runaway Bride" starring Richard Gere and Julia Roberts. Then in 2001, Berlin became the fictional setting for "Tuck Everlasting" starring Sissy Spacek, Ben Kingsley, and William Hurt. For this film, downtown Berlin was transported back to the turn of the century, complete with dirt roads, horses and carriages, and period costumes. <https://berlinmd.gov/>

About Carter Machinery

For over 90 years, Carter Machinery has been focused on enabling the highest level of success for our customers and our team members. This mission has allowed us to grow from humble beginnings in southwest Virginia to our current network of over thirty locations across Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia. Through a team of more than 2,000 dedicated professionals, we sell and support the full line of Caterpillar equipment, engines, and electric power generation systems. However, we don't stop with traditional parts and service support. Our intent is to be an integral partner with our customers by employing the latest technologies, data insights, and application expertise so maximum uptime and return on investment is realized. <https://cartermachinery.com/>

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