

Celebrating Success: Landfill & Development Co. Superfund Site Mount Holly, New Jersey



Superfund
Redevelopment
Initiative



The solar power array on the site. (Source: EPA)

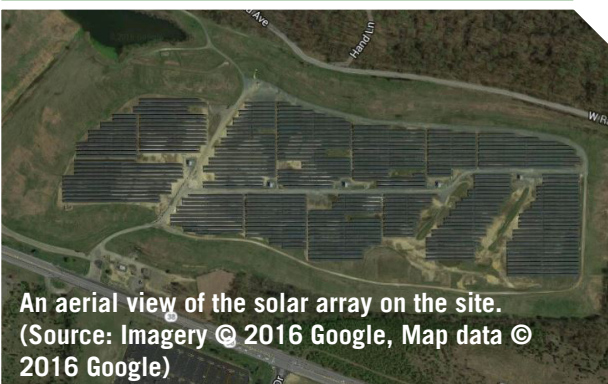
“The former L&D landfill will have a productive new life as a solar farm.”

– John Wohlrab, Waste Management of New Jersey



Rancocas Creek viewed from the air in November 2011. (Source: Public Domain)

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An aerial view of the solar array on the site. (Source: Imagery © 2016 Google, Map data © 2016 Google)

The Landfill & Development Company Superfund site (the Site), a former landfill located in Burlington County, New Jersey, has been redeveloped into a solar farm. Coordination between EPA, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), the potentially responsible party and the power utility has resulted in the successful redevelopment of the Site for public services.

The 200-acre Site operated as a sand and gravel pit from the early 1940s until about 1968. The Landfill and Development (L&D) Company began landfilling at the property from 1971 until 1981. Investigations by NJDEP found site-related contamination in groundwater. EPA added the Site to the Superfund program’s National Priorities List (NPL) in 1983.

The L&D Company began cleanup efforts in 2006. Cleanup included drilling new wells for affected residents, continued operation of a groundwater pump-and-treat system and groundwater monitoring. L&D Company maintains the cap installed during landfill closure and continues to collect and dispose of landfill leachate and gas.

A portion of the area downgradient of the landfill is designated by Burlington County as a greenway in an effort to connect Smithville Park and Rancocas State Park along Rancocas Creek. The greenway provides access to Rancocas Creek and serves as an ecological and recreational amenity to the community.

The Public Service Electric & Gas Company (PSE&G) built a solar farm on a 53-acre section of the Site. The 12.9-megawatt capacity solar farm began operating in December 2015. It includes 42,000 panels, producing enough power for 2,000 households. PSE&G adapted the solar panel support design to protect the cap over the landfill wastes. Conventional solar panel anchor systems require digging into the ground to place support pilings. Since this would disturb the remedy in place, PSE&G anchored the panels on concrete ballasts located on the surface of the cap instead. Energy generated by the solar farm feeds into the grid and supplements the public utility power supply. PSE&G is considering expanding the solar farm onto another part of the Site to increase its capacity.