Fact Sheet: BMW Manufacturing Landfill Gas Project

- The energy provided by recycled methane gas will supply BMW Manufacturing Corp. with 25% of its energy needs.
- To utilize the gas, a 9.5-mile pipeline was built from Palmetto Landfill to BMW Manufacturing Corp. BMW's project is unique in the fact that most other landfill gas projects create energy at the landfill and send through wires. BMW will pipe gas to drive generators.
- BMW's landfill project is the only project that co-generates electricity and hot water for use at an industrial location remote from the landfill.
- Landfills are the largest man-made methane source in the United States. Methane is produced as trash decomposes. When released into the air, it is a greenhouse gas and contributes to local smog conditions.
- By recycling methane gas, BMW is able to improve local air quality by lowering regional emissions of greenhouse gases (methane and carbon dioxide).
- BMW's landfill gas-to-energy project will reduce carbon dioxide emissions equivalent to driving 105 million miles per year or more than 4,000 times around the earth.
- BMW's landfill gas-to-energy project will recover sufficient energy to heat the equivalent of 15,000 homes per year.
- Ameresco designed, built and owns the pipeline, gas processing and gas compression facilities, as well as manages the overall operations of the project.
- Waste Management, which owns and operates the Palmetto Landfill, has been developing landfill gas-to-energy projects for more than 15 years and currently supplies landfill gas to 69 gasto-energy projects in 21 states.
- BMW is a charter member of the EPA's National Environmental Achievement Track that recognizes companies for their environmental stewardship and performance. The company is also a member of the South Carolina Environmental Excellence Program and is on the Dow Jones Sustainability Group Index, which rates environmentally friendly companies.