



Cargill Environmental Finance: Saving green while staying green

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In one of Cargill Connects' largest reader polls, 1655 of Cargill employees responded by telling us how they are trying to be more "green" in their daily lives.

The two most common ways are: turning off the water while brushing your teeth (62.11%) and using energy efficient light bulbs (64.83%).

Cargill is also doing more to make our future brighter and greener and that's thanks to Cargill Environmental Finance.

Who is Cargill Environmental Finance?

CEF is a business unit devoted to helping Cargill profitably green its supply chain and improve its environmental stewardship.

The business unit has established 46 projects in eight countries, from the hog waste to energy converter in South Africa that [Cargill Connects told you about in 2007](#) to one of their latest projects: the first U.S. commissioned BioFactory in Wendell, Idaho with Bettencourt Dairy.

Creativity with Rewards

Projects that involve cow waste or boiling sawdust may sound messy and bizarre, but the creative people behind CEF like BU leader, Jay Ritzen, are not only helping our environment's condition by creating sustainable energy, they are helping save Cargill some green too by reducing costs.

With an anaerobic digester at Bettencourt, the second largest dairy operation in the U.S., the dairy will be able to convert cow effluent into 2.4 megawatts of power per year. Co-products from the process will be made into organic fertilizer and digested solids for animal bedding.

"We will go wherever we can profitably green Cargill's supply chain, reduce costs and create renewable energy," says Ritzen who sees a "very robust" future for CEF.



This is the anaerobic digester in Dry Creek, Idaho.

Spotlight Story Archives

- [2008](#)
- [2007](#)
- [2006](#)

Related Resources

- For more information on Cargill Environmental Finance and comprehensive look at their projects visit <http://www.cargillcarbon.com>

Need More Information?

Contact the Cargill Connects team at: Cargill_Connects@cargill.com

From Indonesia to Honduras CEF is bring Cargill's innovation around the globe. People who witness these projects going into action like Samuel Wibisono, PT Santosa Agrindo's President Director- Beef Division in Sumatera, Indonesia, are energized about their new opportunities.

"We are excited to be working with Cargill to develop this innovative means of manure waste management," said "The digester will substantially reduce odors while creating a renewable energy source to help us reduce our overall operating costs."

More than just renewable energy

CEF, which started as Carbon Emission Reeducation Services in 2005, has grown into a force to help Cargill's employees and BUs see the value in what we look at as waste.

Guelph and Bovina Processing Plants, Malt Facilities in Germany and Animal Nutrition in Honduras are all working with CEF to turns their bi-products into value, not just renewable energy. Soil amendment, coal alternatives, wood fiber alternatives and cellulosic ethanol feed stock are all products that come from CEF's BioFactory brand of anaerobic digestion.

Through these endeavors CEF is at the forefront of Cargill's innovation initiative.

"We are achieving market penetration without Cargill capital and off Cargill's balance sheet," says Ritzen.