

# News

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **NATIONAL GRID LOOKS TO USE LEFTOVERS TO LIGHT RHODE ISLAND**

### **Food Waste To Power Proposed Electricity Generating Facility**

#### **Favorable Pricing, Exciting Technology, Local Siting to Benefit Rhode Island**

Providence, R.I. – Did you ever wonder what happens to unsold supermarket produce and meat products? Typically, hundreds of tons of waste generated daily finds its way into local landfills; taking up much of the dwindling space available at these facilities. Now [National Grid](#) is looking to find a new use for the spoiled food by contracting with [Orbit Energy, Inc.](#) of North Carolina to buy electricity generated by burning biogas created by the decomposition of food waste and other organic waste.

National Grid is asking the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission to approve a proposed agreement with Orbit to buy more than 23,000 mega watt hours (MWh) of electricity per year (enough to power 2,300 homes) from its generating facility to be located at the [Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation](#) landfill in Johnston, R.I. The facility is expected to become operational in September 2013.

“National Grid has long been committed to the development of sources of renewable energy,” said Timothy F. Horan, president of national Grid, Rhode Island. “This particular project has multiple benefits, chief among them putting to use approximately 120 tons of food waste that is now being dumped into the landfill every day.”

The facility will utilize [High Solids Anaerobic Digester](#) technology to produce biogas. The technology was developed by U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

The power generated by the Orbit facility will account for three-tenths of one percent of National Grid’s total annual electricity demand in Rhode Island. The purchase price of the electricity is expected to range from 9.5 cents per kilowatt hour to 10 cents per kilowatt hour, which is projected to be at or below market prices, beginning in 2013. The facility is expected to be operational in September of 2013.

Under Rhode Island statutes, the PUC must approve the contract for it to go into effect. A decision is expected later this summer.

## **NATIONAL GRID LOOKS TO USE LEFTOVERS TO LIGHT RHODE ISLAND/2**

[National Grid](#) is an international energy delivery company. In the U.S., National Grid delivers electricity to approximately 3.3 million customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Rhode Island, and manages the electricity network on Long Island under an agreement with the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA). It is the largest distributor of natural gas in the northeastern U.S., serving approximately 3.4 million customers in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York and Rhode Island. National Grid also owns over 4,000 megawatts of contracted electricity generation that provides power to over one million LIPA customers.

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