



# BIOENERGY CASE STUDY

Located in Granville, MA, Rockwood Farm is a family-owned dairy operation that started in 1969. Rockwood formed a strategic partnership with Ag-Grid Energy to create a state-of-the-art food waste anaerobic digester. With the goal of removing food waste and organic materials from landfills, the Rockwood Ag-Grid anaerobic digester recycles food and farm waste while generating renewable energy for the region.



## Challenge

- Many states in the Northeast have implemented food waste diversion programs, as organic materials produce greenhouse gas emissions. These programs aim to divert food waste and the demand has only increased, year-over-year
- Ag-Grid must anticipate the growing demand as they strategize for projects. Growth is inevitable and the developers must be intentional about expansion possibilities in the near future



## Solution

- SBA 7(a) loan to refinance existing construction loan and working capital to support the growth and operations of the farm



## Outcome

- Through the strategic partnership between Rockwood and Ag-Grid, the anaerobic digester supports the region's food diversion programs and creates renewable energy
- The anaerobic digester reduces tons of CO2 emissions
- The next generation of Rockwood farmers will have an economically and environmentally sustainable operation to carry their agricultural legacy into the future

## Deal At-A-Glance

### Business Type

Bioenergy

### Location

Granville, MA

### Wins

Digester processes 100 tons of food waste every day, generates 3.6 million kW hours of renewable energy annually, 339 homes powered annually, 25,000 tons of organic waste diverted from landfills annually. Rockwood has the potential to expand from 3.6 million KWH to 5.5 million KWH with a planned engine upgrade which would process 250 cubic feet per minute of biogas produced.

"I am very grateful for the support of Live Oak Bank. I admire the mission of Live Oak as the bank that small developers such as myself can use as the last resort - when no one else would support them. Ag-Grid Energy was the beneficiary of that mission and that support from Live Oak instigated our growth. The team at Live Oak fundamentally supports the vision of renewable energy. It certainly fits with Ag-Grid's mission of 'making a difference' however small."

– Rashi Akki, Founder and CEO of Ag-Grid Energy

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