

Largest Fuel Cell Plant in U.S. Goes Live at Pepperidge Farm

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NORWALK, Conn. --

[Pepperidge Farm](#), [FuelCell Energy Inc.](#) and the [Connecticut Clean Energy Fund](#) dedicated a new 1.2-megawatt fuel cell power plant at the cookie company's state-of-the-art bakery in Bloomfield. The fuel cell, dedicated in a ceremony yesterday, is now the biggest power source at the 260,000-square-foot facility. It is also the largest single commercial fuel cell power plant in the United States. It supplies about 57 percent of the electricity needs at the plant and is the second fuel cell to be installed at the site, which was built in 2003.

The first fuel cell was just 250 kilowatts and was commissioned in 2006. Together, the two fuel cells can shoulder as much as 70 percent of the load. Both fuel cells were made by FuelCell Energy and both projects received financial help from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, which provided a \$3.5 million grant for the most recent project.

Fuel cells produce electricity electrochemically, without combustion, so the company is experiencing what it's like achieve near-zero emissions. Any excess heat from the process involving the larger fuel cell is channeled to the bakery to help power its work, the company said.