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[Apr 03 2012](#) by [kprestage](#)

SAINT PAULS, NC – April 3, 2012 – FLS Energy, in partnership with Prestage Foods, has completed the nation's largest solar thermal farm at the Prestage Foods Processing Facility in St. Pauls, NC. the solar energy system is six-times larger than any solar thermal system currently in operation and will produce an average of 100,000 gallons of hot water per day for use in the turkey processor's operations.

The system was dedicated on Tuesday, April 3, 2012. There were many people were in attendance including dignitaries from the national, state, and local levels. Attendees heard comments from dignitaries including the USDA Under Secretary of Rural Development, Dallas Tonsager. After the press conference, attendees were taken out into the solar farm for tours and a question/answer session with members of the FLS staff.



System Facts:

- The 7-acre system consists of 2100, 4' x 10' ground-mounted AET flat-plate solar collection panels and ten, 25,000 gallon solar storage tanks.
- With no capital investment from Prestage Foods, FLS Energy financed the project and will sell Prestage the energy it needs to heat water used in daily plant operations.
- The system will cut Prestage's utility costs for heating hot water by more than 35%.
- During construction, from October 2011 through January 2012, an average of 60 construction employees were working on site, 7 days a week.

Read more from the Saint Pauls Review:

[Nation's Largest Solar Thermal Farm Dedicated](#)

[Solar Farm Unveiling to bring state, national dignitaries to SP](#)

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