

# Solar Power Takes Flight

Columbia Metropolitan Airport • Columbia, SC



Columbia Metropolitan Airport (CAE) is the main commercial airport for Columbia and surrounding midland regions of South Carolina. The airport covers 2,600 acres and has several major commercial carriers operating daily passenger flights, as well as serving as a hub for a major package delivery company. As with any growing airport, CAE faces the challenges of balancing expansion needs while constantly trying to reduce operational expenditures. As part of a capital improvement plan to run the airport more efficiently and support environmentally-friendly programs, Con Edison Solutions was selected in 2015 to be the development partner for solar photovoltaic projects. Con Edison Solutions helped the airport navigate the regulatory process while developing a solar photovoltaic project that met the airport's fiscal requirements. In 2017, this culminated in the activation of a new five-acre solar array located on land between the two active runways. The airport's solar power system was developed by Con Edison Solutions and Con Edison Solutions was the EPC (engineer-procure-construction) contractor for the project. The 1.38 MW solar array is the largest in Lexington County, South Carolina and is expected to produce approximately \$250,000 in annual bill credits from South Carolina Electric and Gas (SCE&G) over a ten-year term. Ultimately, the CAE is estimated to save \$5.5 million on energy costs over 25 years. More importantly, the solar array offers a vision of a cleaner energy future for the airport and serves as a model for other airports across the country.



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Environmental Benefits

CO<sub>2</sub> Offsets: 2,575,871 lbs. annually  
CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent: 224 cars removed from the road annually

### Technology

Canadian Solar  
Panels: 4,320

### System Size

1.38 MW (DC)

### Savings

Approximately \$5.5 million over 25 years

Sustainable energy solutions for communities, businesses, schools and other organizations

Con Edison Solutions provides Integrated Energy Solutions that include:

- Energy Services/Energy Efficiency
- Renewables
- Energy Advisory and Procurement

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