

The World's First 100% Renewable Ski Area



"Berkshire East Ski Area is a great example of how distributed energy projects like wind and solar can help small, family-owned businesses thrive for years to come."

KEVIN SCHULTE, SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT



Their need.

Berkshire East is the world's first ski area to be powered entirely by on-site renewables. With concerns over climate change and the high costs associated with their snow-making equipment, the resort wanted to use renewable energy to offset energy expenses and help improve their energy security, guaranteeing that the 100,000 skiers and snowboarders they host annually would be able to hit the slopes for many years to come.






Our solution.

The project was designed and installed by local dealer Sustainable Energy Developments, Inc. (SED), and used 90 dual-axis AllEarth Solar Trackers. These trackers can withstand harsh winter climates and have superior snow shedding abilities—important factors for Berkshire East, located on a mountaintop. Trackers are equipped with automatic high wind, cold temperature, and snow settings, and are rated at up to 120 mph wind speeds, making them ideal for a mountain installation.

kWh production.

Berkshire East's 500kW solar farm produces 700,000 kWh annually, in spite of harsh winter conditions. Along with a 900kW wind turbine installed in 2011, the trackers will cover the ski area's entire annual electric demand.

Project Specs

-  **Installation Location**
Charlemont, MA
-  **Date Completed**
December 2013
-  **System Installer**
Sustainable Energy Development
-  **System Size**
500kW, 90 Series-24
AllEarth Solar Trackers
-  **Electricity Generated**
700,000 kWh/Year

