

Joshua M. Meyer

Joshua Meyer is a Manager with Encorp's Corporate Development group. He works with utilities, energy service companies and energy technology developers. In this capacity Mr. Meyer is responsible for business planning, strategic analysis and the formation and maintenance of alliances and partnerships.

Prior to joining Encorp, Mr. Meyer was a consultant with Arthur D. Little's Utilities and Energy Services Practice. He has over thirteen years of business management experience and has focused on strategic planning, product management, and new product and service development. His articles and white papers on the energy sector and distributed generation have been published a number of forums including Public Utilities Fortnightly.

Mr. Meyer received a Masters of Business Administration degree from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Connecticut College.

Abstract

In landfill gas-to-energy projects, where an electric generator is utilized, the economic value of the generator is directly correlated to the capacity factor. Unscheduled maintenance and loss of generator efficiency reduces the total amount of electricity produced, lowers the capacity factor and undermines the potential revenue stream. Landfill gas-to-energy projects often are not large enough to employ dedicated personnel at the site to monitor and maintain the generator. In place of onsite personnel, remote communications and analytical software are deployed with increasing frequency to monitor generator performance and to detect, alarm and then diagnosis operational related issues.

Waste Management has deployed Encorp's Virtual Maintenance Monitor™ software to monitor generator performance at four California landfills. Combined, these landfills have the potential to provide 14 MW of electric power. At each site, Waste Management has found that using analytical software and remote communication reduces maintenance costs and improves operating efficiencies. On a regular basis, reports are automatically issued that ensure the generator is operating at peak capacity and its emissions are within air quality compliance. On a continual basis the Virtual Maintenance Monitor™ analyzes the input gas quality and BTU content, engine cylinder temperatures, engine fluid pressures and temperatures, and power supplied to the utility. The net result is improved capacity factor, which in turn, enhances Waste Management's revenue from electricity sales.