

Press Release

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Axpo brings solar power to the Alps and saves 1,600 litres of diesel annually

With its "Energie-Alp" project on the Guetbächi alp in the Glarus region, Axpo is bringing solar power and battery storage to a Swiss alpine farm for the very first time. The project demonstrates how renewable energy can already today support everyday life and energy supply, even in remote locations.

In cooperation with the municipality of Glarus Süd and the Hefti tenant family, Axpo has installed a photovoltaic system including battery storage on the "Mittelstaffel" (middle section) of Alp Guetbächi. Thanks to a specially installed cable, even the higher "Oberstaffel" (upper section) of the alp is now supplied with solar power. Implementation was carried out by Axpo subsidiary CKW.

Specifically, not just theoretical: What solar power achieves on the alp

By switching to renewable electricity, Alp Guetbächi can now save around 1,600 litres of diesel per year. Previously, diesel generators were used to provide power – now, the sun takes over.

The solar power generated on-site is used immediately or stored in the battery. As a result, the cheese cellar can now be cooled continuously. The water for cheese production is also heated electrically – meaning less wood chopping and greater energy efficiency. The installation not only ensures a reliable energy supply, but also significantly eases the daily workload of the Hefti family.

This makes it possible to ensure a reliable, renewable and CO₂-friendly energy supply – even in the heart of the Glarus Alps.

Solar instead of diesel

To this day, many alpine farms rely on fossil diesel generators. The "Energie-Alp" project aims to change that: With modern solar power systems and battery storage, farms like Guetbächi can be supplied with energy more sustainably and independently. The locally generated electricity is used directly or stored – ensuring a clean and secure supply.

With the Energie-Alp Guetbächi, Axpo aims to help make the balancing act between traditional alpine farming and a renewable future possible.

About Axpo

Axpo is committed to enabling a sustainable future with innovative energy solutions. It is Switzerland's largest producer of electricity and a leading international energy trader and marketer of solar and wind power. Over 7,000 employees combine experience and expertise with a passion for innovation and the pursuit of better energy solutions. Axpo relies on cutting-edge technologies to meet the changing needs of its customers in over 30 countries across Europe, North America and Asia.

Contact

Axpo Holding AG, Corporate Communications
T 0800 44 11 00 (Switzerland), T +41 56 200 41 10 (International)
(Available from 08:00 to 17:30)
medien@axpo.com