Ayla Solar

The First Agrovoltaic Project in the PMGD Segment in Chile

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Our Vision for the Future

At oEnergy, we have always been distinguished and recognized for the value of innovation, propelling us to trust, invest, and bet on new technologies in our tireless pursuit of new ways that allow us to generate energy in the most sustainable and efficient way possible

That's why we took on the challenge of develop and build "Ayla Solar," our first agro-solar project and the first in the PMGD segment in Chile, aiming to integrate photovoltaic energy production with food cultivation on the same land. This 9MWp project, situated in Rancagua, O'Higgins Region, is a pioneer in the region and a trailblazer in the use of agrovoltaic technology in the country.

Over three years, we have diligently developed and built this project in an area with high agricultural potential, pushing us to explore and implement this innovative technology. Our aim is to enhance the preservation of biodiversity on-site and protect ecosystems.

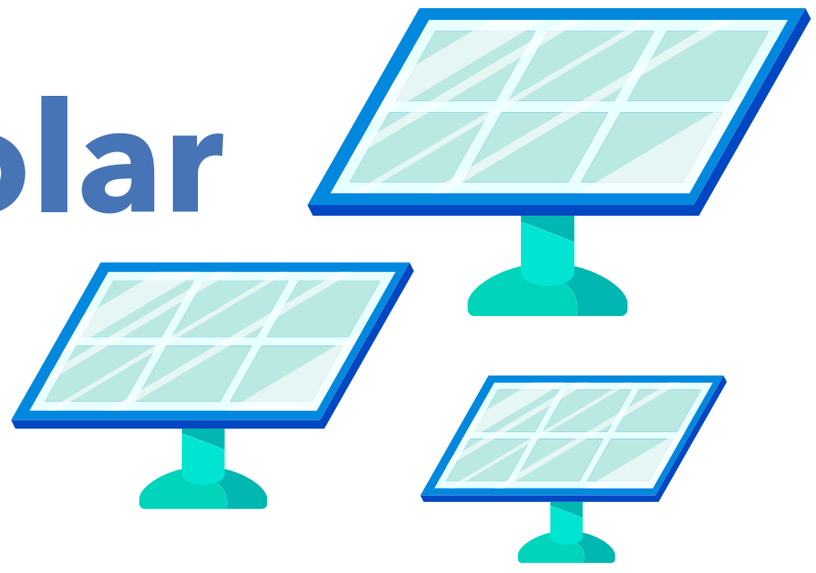
As a pioneering and pilot project, we know and hope that all the outcomes and knowledge emerging from the implementation of "Ayla Solar" can set a precedent for future regulations governing agrosolar projects. This involves incorporating this type of implementation as a compensatory measure, thereby evolving into a national-level public policy. Additionally, it contributes to the study and research of agricultural outcomes in these types of projects.

In line with this vision, oEnergy has decided to include more agrosolar projects in our new development portfolio, particularly in highly agricultural areas. Additionally, we plan to integrate agriculture into already established parks, recognizing the compatibility of low-altitude crops with solar parks.

We believe that this type of projects represents a significant advancement at a national level, especially considering Chile's status as a food powerhouse. This initiative not only safeguards the soil but also contributes to combating the climate and food crises simultaneously.

Ayla Solar

Overview



Location:
Rancagua, Libertador
General Bernardo O'Higgins Region

Capacity: 9 MWp

Land Lease Date:
August 2019

Approved Permits: RCA, CTI, IFC, SAG, MINVU, sanitary permits, drinking water, waste disposal yards, road access permits, electrical permits, etc.

Investment amount:
USD 12,000,000,000

Lifespan:
30 years

Production:
12,000 kg per hectare

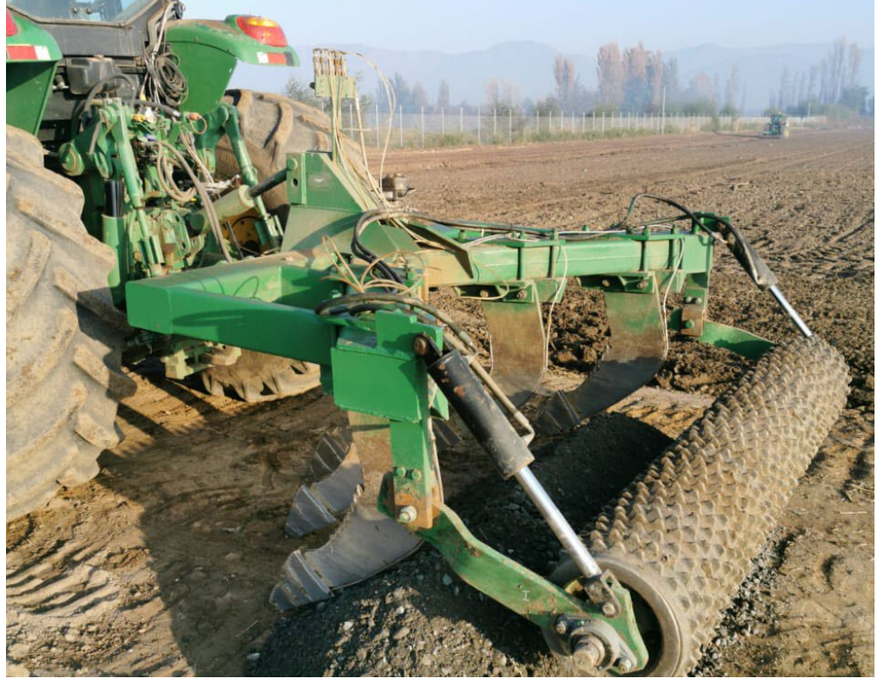
Production Time: 2026-2027 Season
(first harvest: December 31, 2026)

Species:
Cherry

Variety:

Sweet Aryana (Specie with Royalty)
Lapins | Santina | Cherry 10

Project Origin



Upon deciding to develop a photovoltaic park in Rancagua, O'Higgins Region, situated in an essentially agricultural sector with some of the best soils in Chile (Class 1 and 2), oEnergy took an innovative step. We proposed to the authorities that voluntary compensation could be integrated within the same land.

Notably, Chile lacks regulations governing agrosolar projects, presenting a primary challenge for acceptance by organizations such as the Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG) for this pilot project. To overcome this, we presented the agrosolar concept through successful projects in Thailand, Japan, and India, as an approved global technology.

Additionally, we had to demonstrate that such projects effectively protect high-quality soils and establish a genuine synergy between panels and crops. Consequently, the SAG requested indicators, especially regarding tons of compensation production.

After multiple fruitful meetings, the Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG) of the O'Higgins Region approved the cultivation of cherry trees on-site, acknowledging the project as environmentally compensating in itself.

Our Agricultural Project

"Ayla Solar," by incorporating agricultural compensation within the same land as the panels, made a commitment with the authorities, particularly with the Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG), to cultivate and harvest cherry trees. The project also conducted studies to observe the behavior of this species in different modalities: next to the panels and in a space exclusively dedicated to the conventional planting of high-density cherry trees. This comparison allows us to understand how the same variety behaves in both types of plantations.

For this purpose, various productive varieties (Santina, Lapins, Sweet Aryana - royalty specie - and Cherry 10), planting frames, training systems, and rootstocks were considered. Throughout this process, we received guidance from Marlene Araya, PhD in Horticulture and an expert in plant physiology from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, to design and execute the crops.

We also established a collaboration with the university to contribute to the education and training of professionals, enabling students to conduct studies, research, and analysis in the field throughout the entire lifespan of the project, turning it into a true agrosolar technology laboratory.

Furthermore, we hired professionals and technicians specializing in agricultural issues for this project. Currently, we have an in-house technical, commercial, and operational advisor to ensure the success of this venture.

Why cherry trees?

Cherry trees were selected due to the agroclimatic data in the project area, facilitating the optimal development of this species. The location, accumulating sufficient cold hours, allows for homogeneous cherry tree sprouting. Additionally, the Class 1 soil is ideal for its growth, and the species has a tap root and dactyl growth, making it perfectly compatible with electric trenches and solar panel radiation.

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