

# Sustainability leadership and lowering carbon footprint at six bakeries with Innovative On-site Energy-as-a-Service Solar and Storage Microgrid

Bimbo Bakeries USA

Case Study



[Bimbo Bakeries USA](#), the undisputed leader in commercial baking, is renowned for its innovative products, unparalleled freshness, and superior quality. Operating nearly 60 bakeries nationwide with a dedicated team of 20,000 associates, Bimbo Bakeries USA boasts top brands such as Entenmann's®, Thomas'®, Oroweat® and Ball Park Buns®. The company is deeply committed to sustainability and has been a distinguished member of RE100, EPA Green Power Partner, and ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year for four years in a row. In 2020, the company's bakeries located in Escondido, California, and Denver, Colorado, received the distinguished Food Processing Magazine's "Green Plant of the Year" and "The Colorado Environmental Leadership Award", respectively.

Bimbo Bakeries USA is part of the Grupo Bimbo family, the world's largest baking company. They strive to be leaders in sustainability, recognizing their obligation to protect and preserve our planet for generations to come, and are committed to achieving Net Zero Carbon emissions by the year 2050. Sustainability goals were developed using the framework of the Science Based Targets initiative.

### GOALS

- Help meet Bimbo Bakeries USA ' ambitious net zero goals
- Mitigate the risk of increasing energy prices.
- Sites with the highest energy intensity selected

### SOLUTION

- Energy Services Agreement to design, build, finance, operate, and maintain renewable energy microgrids
- Supply of zero-carbon energy, peak demand management, and optimized use of energy from the grid and its on-site system
- Modular and standardized approach with no upfront capital

### OUTCOMES

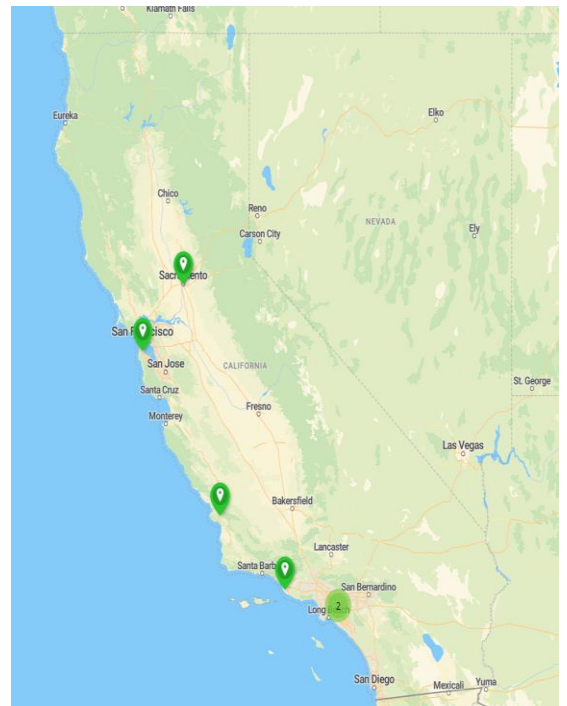
- 20% carbon reduction and covers 20% of sites' electricity needs
- Optimized energy costs and clean energy supply.
- Digital transparency with BeyondTheGrid and Scope2 emissions reporting
- Future ready for added resilience and EV charging

## Sustainable Future through Technology

In pursuit of its ambitious zero-carbon goals, Bimbo Bakeries USA turned to Greenstruxure®, a pioneer in onsite Energy-as-a-Service renewable energy microgrids with robust support from its strategic partner Schneider Electric. In 2022, Bimbo Bakeries USA entered into a 25-year Energy as a Service (EaaS) Agreement with Greenstruxure®. This groundbreaking collaboration involved designing, constructing, operating, and maintaining modular, standardized solar and battery on-site microgrids, all without any upfront capital costs. By simply paying a monthly fee for the energy supply and energy services, Bimbo Bakeries USA is able to supply its bakeries with clean, reliable, and affordable energy generated on-site for decades to come. The initial six California bakeries (Montebello, Placentia, Oxnard, San Luis Obispo, South San Francisco, and Sacramento) were strategically chosen based on high energy intensity. This approach aimed to limit the effects of rising electricity costs and have the maximum impact on decarbonization.



GreenStruxure's innovative solution also includes the best-in-class artificial intelligence (AI) platform BeyondtheGrid® for smart real-time energy and asset management and forecasting, energy cost optimization, and additional sustainability services to ensure optimal performance, Scope 2 emissions reporting in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, and full digital transparency. Other key benefits of GreenStruxure's Energy Cost Optimization (ECO) service include demand charge management, time-of-use (TOU) energy arbitrage, economic modeling and analysis, and performance reporting.



The on-site solar-plus-storage microgrids at the six California bakeries cover a remarkable 20% of their electricity needs, resulting in a 20% reduction in carbon emissions, which is equivalent to 1,700 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. This commendable achievement can be attributed to the efficient use of grid electricity, peak demand management, and zero-carbon energy supplied to the site. Furthermore, the bakeries are future-ready, equipped for added resilience and easy-to-use EV charging infrastructure services.

*"In California, the combination of rising utility rates and an incentive-rich atmosphere for renewable energy allows these projects to be not only profitable but also improve the communities where we live and work," commented Kevin Yavari, Bimbo Bakeries USA's Senior Regional Manager of Environmental Sustainability.*

## Building a Greener Future

The partnership with Greenstruxure® has not only supported Bimbo Bakeries USA in its net zero carbon objective but also provided the largest commercial baking company with a competitive advantage of locked-in rates for price predictability, energy cost optimization using an AI copilot, and seamless performance to ensure smooth running of business operations and critical systems. The ongoing collaboration is set to strengthen further, with plans to deploy additional EaaS microgrids across more sites, amplifying Bimbo Bakeries USA's strides towards decarbonization using GreenStruxure's flexible and scalable EaaS business model.



*[Contact our energy experts](#) today for more information on how GreenStruxure's cutting-edge On-site Zero Carbon Energy Services can support your business goals.*

*Your future, powered sustainably, starts here.*

GreenStruxure®