

SOLAR ARRAY INSTALLED AT QUICK CHEK HQ

By João-Pierre Ruth - NJBiz

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Convenience store retailer **Quick Chek**, based in the Whitehouse Station section of Readington, now gets part of its electricity from the sun. **Vanguard Energy Partners LLC**, in Branchburg, installed a 110-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system at the retailer's headquarters, with more installations being considered for its 119 stores.

The solar panels mounted on the roof of Quick Chek's offices are expected to generate more than 20 percent of its energy needs. Some 627 solar modules were installed on the rooftop.

"The engineering and permitting took about a month. Installation began in April," said **Tom Buono**, vice president of operations with Vanguard, which designs and installs solar panel systems. He declined to disclose the cost of the project. Buono said Vanguard continues to work with Quick Chek on developing potential plans for rolling out solar arrays to the retail chain.

"We are going to provide them with a feasibility study to determine if solar is possible for retail stores," he said. Some of the stores are on company-owned property, while others are leased, which may preclude solar installations, he said.