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System gathering energy for summer

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A cold-energy storage system that will eliminate hundreds of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions is now up and running in Dartmouth.

Municipal officials announced yesterday the Alderney 5 Geothermal Cold Energy Storage System has started gathering energy used to provide air conditioning to municipal buildings on the Dartmouth water the spring and summer months.

"Already, the project has resulted in savings of \$350,000 in energy costs," said HRM Mayor Peter Kelly.

The system will also reduce HRM's greenhouse gas emissions by over 900 tonnes per year, say the project's managers.

The system consists of 80 holes that extend 500 feet into the ground. Using a seawater cooling system, cold energy will be harvested in the winter months and stored underground in the rock mass.

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