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Such innovative environmental initiatives are nothing new to Stockton. The college's previous efforts at reducing its environmental impact have included solar panels on its academic buildings, a new expansion of its academic facilities certified by the US Green Building Council as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) construction, and perhaps most notably, one of the largest geothermal systems in the world. A new aquifer thermal storage energy project (ATES), one of the first in the United States, began operation two weeks ago. This technology of the ATES system reduces the amount of energy used to cool Stockton's buildings by storing cold temperature water in underground aquifers in the winter and drawing it back out in the summer to help cool campus buildings.

Stockton's green commitment is evident in its courses as well. This is the first term that Stockton is offering an innovative curriculum in sustainability and environmental policy, and students have responded to these options with enthusiasm. As a collaboration between the political science and environmental science programs, this new curriculum brings courses in the natural sciences and social and political studies together to help prepare students for careers in environmental policy, environmental management, law, advocacy and education. This course of study is the first of its kind in New Jersey.

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