

# The first solar street in the world went into operation in Normandy, France

Here is the first solar street in the world to operate in Normandy, France.

On December 22, France officially announced the appearance of **the Wattway road** - the first solar road stretching 1km is completely covered by solar panels, power supply. for lights in a small town in Normandy, France.

" *France has just announced the inauguration of the world's first solar street* ," officials said on Thursday, December 22.

The French ecological minister announced the inauguration of an " *unprecedented* " road, covered by solar panels and spanning more than 1 km, capable of powering the lights of this very road inside. a small village in Tourouvre-au-Perche, Normandy, France.



An autopilot drive on the solar road during the inauguration ceremony in Tourouvre, Normandy, northwestern France. Photo source: Benoit Tessier / Reuters,  
The road, called **Wattway** , was officially authorized by the **Monhée** Minister of Ecology Ségolène Royal and Mayor Guy, according to a statement from the ecology minister.

The entire road is covered by **solar panels** , turning solar energy into electricity. " *This new technology is unprecedented* ," the minister said in his statement.



French ecology minister walks on the solar path during the opening ceremony in Tourouvre, Normandy, northwestern France. Photo source: Charly TRIBALLEAU / AFP - Getty Images

French officials hope the road will be able to **absorb energy** and **provide electricity** for street lights in the town, which has about 3,400 residents. The program is designed to test on a wide range of solar roads from medium vehicles and trucks, according to the Minister's report.

According to the Guardian, the construction route costs 4.2 million pounds (about 118 billion dong) and will be tested in two years. Bougyes Company completed a mere 1km of road, assembled from solar-absorbing panels with a total area of 2,800 m<sup>2</sup>. It is estimated that there will be about 2,000 vehicles per day going through this route.

Earlier, the world was also known for a bicycle-only solar street introduced in the Netherlands. That road could generate about 3,000 kWh of electricity, enough to supply the average household electricity demand for a year.



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