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Ribbon Cutting Held for Largest Solar Carport Project in New England

Commissioner Klee, Senator Crisco, First Selectwoman Scalettar and others attend the July 16 Celebration

Woodbridge, CT (July 16, 2015) – The JCC of Greater New Haven hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for a new solar carport that is the biggest in the region, on Thursday, July 16, 2015, at 9 am at 360 Amity Rd. in Woodbridge. Commissioner Rob Klee of the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection; Woodbridge First Selectwoman Ellen Scalettar; Sen. Joe Crisco; Bryan Garcia, President & CEO of the Connecticut Green Bank; Scott Cohen, COO & CFO of the JCC of Greater New Haven; Daniel Prokopy, CEO of the Deutsche Eco Group; and Paul Kuehn, Managing Director of the Deutsche Eco Group were in attendance.

This is the largest solar carport project in New England, at 750 kilowatts, and the first financed under the Green Bank's innovative C-PACE-secured PPA structure, requiring no money down from the JCC and providing immediate cost savings. The Jewish Federation and the JCC of Greater New Haven wanted to lower their utility costs and lower their carbon footprint at their facility. With financing through the Connecticut Green Bank, the JCC installed solar panels on parking canopies to generate 50 percent of the Beckerman/Lender building's electrical costs. Current consumption of electricity at the facility was 1,800,000 KWH. The solar panels will lower the consumption to 880,000 KWHs.

“The solar carport at the JCC of Greater New Haven is an innovative way for the organization to cut down on their electric costs” said Bryan Garcia from Connecticut Green Bank.

“Connecticut Green Bank was excited to partner with the JCC to finance this endeavor, by combining our C-PACE program with a low-cost Power Purchase Agreement. This project and other projects supporting energy efficiency measures and renewable energy sources benefit Connecticut and the region.”

The Connecticut Green Bank leverages public and private funds to assist homeowners, companies, municipalities, and institutions to support renewable energy and energy efficiency throughout the state.

The solar canopies with the solar panels are located in the parking lot of the JCC. Construction began in the winter and ended when the solar panels began functioning on June 23, 2015. The new solar panels complement actions already taken to lower utility costs at the JCC; negotiating favorable utility rates, installing energy efficient lighting systems, and the installation of a co-generation unit.

“If electricity purchase rates continue to rise, the carports and solar panels will significantly reduce our costs over their lifetime. We are very excited to be able to save money and cut down on our energy consumption,” said Scott Cohen, Chief Operating Officer of the JCC of Greater New Haven.

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About the JCC of Greater New Haven

The JCC of Greater New Haven is a nonprofit organization that provides a warm, friendly atmosphere for health, thought, learning and values. Our mission is to facilitate total wellness through programs that stimulate mind, body and spirit. www.jccnh.org

About Bullrock – Deutsche Eco Solar

Deutsche Eco Solar Ventures is an integrated approach to locating potential solar sites, providing land owners a total systems solution, as well as providing power companies an easier, fully integrated solution to the development, RFP and EPC process. The joint venture combines the global resources and solar expertise of Deutsche Eco Group with the construction and development experience of Bullrock Corporation. www.deutscheeco-bullrockcorp.com

About the Connecticut Green Bank

The Connecticut Green Bank (formerly the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority) was established by the Connecticut General Assembly on July 1, 2011 as a part of Public Act 11-80. As the nation’s first full-scale green bank, it is leading the clean energy finance movement by leveraging public and private funds to scale-up renewable energy deployment and energy efficiency projects across Connecticut. The Green Bank’s success in accelerating private investment in clean energy is helping Connecticut create jobs, increase economic prosperity, promote energy security and address climate change. www.ctgreenbank.com.