



NEWS RELEASE

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Santee Electric Cooperative, Santee Cooper and the Georgetown County School District dedicate Green Power Solar School at Carvers Bay Middle School

HEMINGWAY, S.C. — Santee Electric Cooperative, Santee Cooper and the Georgetown County School District dedicated today South Carolina's sixth Green Power Solar School at Carvers Bay Middle School.

The Green Power Solar Schools initiative is designed to foster an interest in environmental issues as well as demonstrate the feasibility and limitations of renewable-power generation. Each participating school receives a 2-kilowatt solar-power system that provides teaching, research and hands-on demonstration opportunities for students and faculty.

“Our Green Power Solar Schools program took root in 2007 with the dedication of five schools throughout South Carolina, and we're excited to begin the second phase of this innovative campaign here at Carvers Bay Middle School,” said Lonnie Carter, president and chief executive officer of Santee Cooper. “This initiative is a cornerstone of Santee Cooper Green's expansive conservation and renewable energy programs. It also represents a partnership with the 20 electric cooperatives in our state.”

In September 2001, Santee Cooper became the first electric utility in South Carolina to generate and offer Green Power. Since then, all 20 of the state's electric cooperatives and The City of Georgetown have joined the state-owned utility in marketing Green Power to their members and customers. Green Power Solar Schools represents another way Santee Cooper and the 20 electric cooperatives promote renewable energy, and the program fulfills Santee Cooper's commitment to reinvest Green Power funds back into renewable resources throughout the state.

Schools served by Aiken Electric Cooperative, Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Laurens Electric Cooperative, Palmetto Electric Cooperative and Pee Dee Electric Cooperative were dedicated in the program's inaugural year. Ultimately, Santee Cooper hopes to dedicate at least one Green Power Solar School in each of the state's 20 electric cooperative service territories.



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“Santee Electric Cooperative is proud to help usher in the next phase of this important initiative,” said Floyd Keels, Santee Electric Cooperative president and CEO. “Georgetown County’s population is expected to increase 25 percent by 2025, and Green Power Solar Schools represents our combined commitment to continue researching, developing and implementing renewable resources where we can make the biggest difference. Like these students, we’re looking for lessons from this program, too.”

A feature of the Green Power Solar Schools program is a customized renewable-energy curriculum that has been approved by the S.C. Department of Education. It is supplemented by an Internet-based monitoring system that provides students and teachers real-time access to information on their system’s performance and the performance of other solar schools in the state and the U.S.

“Part of what makes this initiative so remarkable is its use of student-friendly technology to reinforce the curriculum and engage our young people to further their knowledge of such a timely resource,” said Dr. Randall Dozier, superintendent of the Georgetown County School District. “Green Power Solar Schools represents a wonderful opportunity for our students and faculty to be involved in a pioneering program whose ultimate lessons will have a significant impact for generations to come.”

Santee Electric Cooperative is a member-owned, nonprofit electric cooperative serving more than 43,000 members and with more than 5,000 miles of distribution lines. As a Touchstone Energy Partner, Santee Electric joins nearly 600 electric co-ops nationwide to share the Touchstone Energy core values of integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community.

Santee Cooper is South Carolina’s state-owned electric and water utility and provides power to more than 162,000 residential and commercial customers in Berkeley, Georgetown and Horry counties and water to 136,000 users in Berkeley and Dorchester counties. The utility also generates the power distributed by the state’s 20 electric cooperatives to more than 685,000 customers in all 46 counties. Santee Cooper is the largest provider of electricity in South Carolina; all total, more than 2 million South Carolinians receive their power directly or indirectly from Santee Cooper. For more information, visit www.SanteeCooper.com. For information on how Santee Cooper lives green and how you can go green with Santee Cooper, visit www.SanteeCooperGreen.com.

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