



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Chapin Middle next Green Power Solar School

### *Phase 2 of innovative environmental program begins*

LEXINGTON, S.C.—Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Santee Cooper and School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties announced today the formation of the Green Power Solar Schools program in the cooperative territory. Chapin Middle School has been selected as a Green Power Solar School.

The Green Power Solar Schools initiative is designed to encourage interest in the environment and demonstrate the feasibility and limitations of renewable power generation. Each Green Power Solar School receives a 2-kilowatt solar power system, which will provide a teaching, research and hands-on demonstration opportunity for students. The project uses a new renewable energy curriculum designed especially for the program that meets state science standards. Each school program is supplemented by an Internet-based monitoring system that provides real-time access to information on the system's performance as well as other solar schools in South Carolina.

“Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative is excited and proud to be a partner in this innovative program. Serving our members to improve their total quality of life is central to what we are all about. We can't think of a better way to honor that tradition of service than to enrich the educational experience of young people through Green Power Solar Schools,” said Jack Wolfe, Jr., Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative president and CEO. “We look forward to the benefits this partnership will bring to our community and to our young people.”

Green Power Solar Schools represents one way that Santee Cooper and the state's 20 electric cooperatives promote renewable energy, and it fulfills Santee Cooper's commitment to reinvest Green Power funds back into renewable resources across South Carolina. In September 2001, Santee Cooper became the first electric utility in the state to generate and offer Green Power to its customers from methane gas collected at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority Landfill near Conway. Since then, two additional landfills in Lee and Richland counties have opened, as



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has the 16-kilowatt solar installation at Coastal Carolina University. Another landfill methane gas generating site has been announced in Georgetown County. Santee Cooper, all 20 electric cooperatives and The City of Georgetown market Green Power to their customers.

"Renewable energy exploration and conservation are important ways to help meet the growing electricity needs in our state. Green Power Solar Schools continues our environmental leadership and challenges the next generation to think differently about future energy sources," said Lonnie Carter, president and chief executive officer of Santee Cooper.

"Exposing our young people to the latest technology is a critical component of teaching and learning in our ever-changing world. This project combines the use of technology with a relevant and exciting science curriculum to engage students as they explore the energy challenges we face today," said Dr. Scott Andersen, superintendent of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties.

Five additional schools, served by Palmetto Electric Cooperative, Berkeley Electric Cooperative, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Aiken Electric Cooperative and Laurens Electric Cooperative, became Green Power Solar Schools in 2007. Chapin Middle School, along with Carvers Bay Middle School in Georgetown County, kick off the second phase of Green Power Solar Schools.

Santee Cooper recently unveiled Santee Cooper Green, a utility-wide commitment bringing together all the eco-friendly, conservation-minded approaches that Santee Cooper practices and all the programs and opportunities for its customers to "go green." More information can be found at [www.SanteeCooperGreen.com](http://www.SanteeCooperGreen.com)

Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative is a member-owned, nonprofit electric cooperative serving almost 50,000 accounts in Lexington, Richland, Saluda, Aiken, and Newberry counties. As a Touchstone Energy Partner, Mid-Carolina Electric joins over 600 electric co-ops nationwide to share the Touchstone Energy core values of integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. Visit [www.mcecoop.com](http://www.mcecoop.com) for more information.

Santee Cooper is South Carolina's state-owned electric and water utility and serves more than 162,000 residential and commercial customers in Berkeley, Georgetown and Horry 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. All total, almost two million South Carolinians receive their power directly or indirectly from Santee Cooper. For more information, visit [www.SanteeCooper.com](http://www.SanteeCooper.com)