

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority to move forward with new rooftop solar system with help from PA Solar Center and Envinity

Going solar will save CCRRA nearly \$2 million over the next 25 years

Centre County, PA – Today the Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority (CCRRA) announced that it will soon make the switch to solar with the help of nonprofit the Pennsylvania Solar Center's G.E.T. Solar program, which provides free technical assistance and financial guidance to businesses and organizations looking to go solar. After a competitive RFP process, CCRRA has hired local solar developer Envinity to complete the installation.

The 791.5-kilowatt solar system will be installed over three separate CCRRA buildings and is estimated to produce about 939,881 kwh/year, which will offset more than 100% of the facility's annual energy usage. Envinity estimates the system will save the Authority nearly \$2 million over the next 25 years.

CCRRA states their solar system will benefit the public in four main ways: 1) by freeing up capital to improve the services provided by the Authority, 2) reducing energy demand, 3) increasing energy supply, and 4) providing education on energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainability through public tours and other programs.

"The Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority looks forward to saving significant money and reducing our carbon footprint by transitioning to solar energy," said Ted Onufrak, Executive Director of CCRRA. "We have been encountering the effects of inflation and other rising costs everywhere we turn, so needless to say, it will be a relief to find major savings on our electric bill with the help of solar."

"With the volatility in electricity costs that we've experienced over the past several years, and the federal Inflation Reduction Act offering cost-saving incentives to go solar, we are seeing many customers choose to make the switch," said Jason Grottini, Vice President of Envinity. "We congratulate CCRRA for having the vision and resolve to achieve this milestone and move the Authority into the clean energy economy."

"It is our hope that CCRRA will serve as an inspiration to other area businesses and organizations in flipping the switch to solar," said Jon Bunyaratapan, Program Manager at the PA Solar Center. "It has been

a privilege to help such a stalwart of the community forge a path forward to clean energy – and save about \$2 million that will be better spent serving Centre County.”

Solar energy is the fastest growing energy in the country and is saving businesses, nonprofits, communities, and residents thousands of dollars in utility bills. Businesses that go solar are hedging against volatile electricity pricing because the cost of solar, once the upfront equipment costs are paid, is nearly free.

ABOUT CENTRE COUNTY RECYCLING AND REFUSE AUTHORITY

It is the mission of the Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority to provide environmentally sound and economically efficient integrated waste management, reduction and recycling services; to work cooperatively with the private sector and to provide educational services with the intent of enhancing the quality of life in Centre County.

With over 28,000 curbside residents, 125 drop-off recycling bins and over 1,000 commercial establishments throughout the county, Centre County residents along with the Pennsylvania State University have many avenues to recycle.

ABOUT ENVINITY

Envinity was founded in 2005 with the purpose of decarbonizing our built environments through energy efficiency and renewable energy. Envinity employees work across all residential and commercial sectors where their core focuses include solar energy and energy storage systems, building new construction and retro-commissioning, MEP design engineering, data analytics, energy master planning, and design build of energy efficient homes and businesses. Envinity has offices in State College, PA, Pittsburgh, PA and Gainesville, FL.

ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA SOLAR CENTER

The PA Solar Center is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with the mission to expand the benefits of solar to all Pennsylvanians. The Center offers technical assistance to non-profit organizations, businesses, and communities to help them go solar, savvy media communications and online resources for all solar stakeholders, and education for decision-makers and advocates about the benefits of robust solar policy. The PA Solar Center provides an online directory of qualified solar developers, a map of notable solar installations, a monthly solar webinar series, and a listing of solar events happening across the state. Learn more at www.pasolarcenter.org.

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