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**CENTRE COUNTY COMPLETES 1.197 MWdc SOLAR ARRAY
AT CORRECTIONAL FACILITY WITH GRANT SUPPORT FROM
WEST PENN POWER SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND (WPPSEF) GRANT**

Bellefonte, PA –The Centre County Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce the completion of a 1.197 MWdc bifacial panel solar array at the Centre County Correctional Facility located at 700 Rishel Hill Road in Benner Township near Bellefonte, PA. Designed and developed by Solar Renewable Energy, LLC (SRE) of Mechanicsburg, Pa, the project received support from the West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF) for the use of bifacial solar panels. The innovative bifacial solar panel technology is comprised of 380W bifacial panels that have a dual (front and back) generation capability. These panels are projected to add about 5% output to the represented wattage due to reflectivity conditions and design.

In April 2020, the County received permission from First Energy/West Penn Power to operate the array. The project was completed on time and at budget with no delays encountered given the COVID-19 environment. “Centre County is pleased to have partnered with SRE and the WPPSEF on this project.” stated Margaret Gray, Centre County Administrator.

The ground mounted solar array will provide the Correctional Facility with virtually all of its electrical energy needs. Covering six (6) acres, the bi-facial solar panels will enable direct and indirect sunlight to be captured from the sun and utilized for electric generation.

The array will produce enough electricity to power 170 homes for an entire year and will generate over 60 million kilowatt-hours of electricity over its lifetime. Environmentally it will avoid 42,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions and 47 million tons of equivalent coal burn.

“The WPPSEF grant funding contributed to an overall lower installed cost for the project and utilizing bifacial panel technology allowing Centre County to enjoy a higher generation capability in a rapidly changing renewable energy environment.” said Joel Morrison Fund Administrator. “We hope this project can serve as a statement that solar innovation and enabling financing can serve as a model for municipalities and governmental agencies within the First Energy/West Penn Power region”.

“We are excited to add Centre County to our growing list of renewably enabled municipalities and non-profit entities in 2020,” stated Douglas R. Berry, CEO and President of SRE. “Our customized approach allows governmental entities to participate in renewable incentives while generating positive cash flows,” added Berry.

The **West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund (WPPSEF)** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that invests in the deployment of sustainable energy technologies that benefit West Penn Power ratepayers in Pennsylvania. WPPSEF investments are focused in three broad categories:

- ✓ Deployment of sustainable and clean energy technologies;
- ✓ Deployment of energy efficiency and conservation technologies; and
- ✓ Facilitating economic development, environmental betterment, and public education as they relate to sustainable energy deployment in the WPP service region.

Visit <http://www.wppsef.org> for further information. [YouTube](#) – Listen to what our project partners have to say about us.

Solar Renewable Energy, LLC (SRE) is a mid-Atlantic leader in providing cost-effective, high-quality solar systems to municipalities, school districts and other non-profit, commercial and industrial entities throughout the region. The company has developed more than 50 megawatts of solar energy, representing over 100 projects and over \$200 million of investment and is an active owner of many of its projects. For more information, visit www.srenergylc.com.

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