Solar Project at UMBC to Receive Clean Energy Funding

1 of 10 Innovative Projects Selected in Maryland

Rockville, MD, March 16 – Governor Martin O'Malley announced today that a 9-kilowatt solar photovoltaic system will be installed at the Clean Energy Technology Incubator at the University of Maryland - Baltimore County through a $73,100 clean energy grant. The solar demonstration is one of 10 clean energy projects across the state selected by the Maryland Clean Energy Center to receive funding assistance supplied by the U.S. Department of Energy through the Maryland Energy Administration.

"These award recipients truly represent an investment in the talents and skills of our people," said Governor O'Malley. "I'd like to congratulate them for their hard work and recognize the Maryland Clean Energy Center for demonstrating a commitment to building our shared energy future. Together, we can continue to make Maryland a leader in clean energy by establishing vital partnerships, providing resources and incentives for our families and workforce, creating jobs and fueling innovation."

The 9-kilowatt solar system will generate power for the Clean Energy Technology Incubator, and will include an educational monitoring display in the public lobby. The project will be installed by Amidus Clean Energy Solutions, one of the firms participating in the incubator at the University of Maryland – Baltimore County campus. The Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SREC) earned by the project for reducing energy demand from traditional power sources and promoting clean, renewable energy will be assigned to the Maryland Clean Energy Center to recycle funding for additional clean energy projects and educational efforts in Maryland.

Among the other clean energy innovation projects selected for funding in Maryland are net-zero energy affordable new homes in Frederick; installation of an energy efficient wind, solar and LED lighting "Eco Pole" on the roof and associated educational display in the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore; and a 20-kilowatt wind energy system to launch a Renewable Energy Education Center at the Crain Memorial Maryland State Welcome Center in Charles County.

Awards were also granted to clean energy demonstration projects in public facilities across the state, including a geothermal energy system to increase heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) efficiency at the Fair Hill Nature Center in Cecil County; upgraded HVAC systems and lighting in the Riverdale Park Town Hall in Prince George's County; retrofitting Easton traffic signals with light-emitting diodes (LED) bulbs in Talbot County; a slip-by-slip metering system for the solar energy project at Crisfield's Somers Cove public marina in Somerset County; replacement of 92 old lighting fixtures with energy-efficient LED bulbs in the Hagerstown public parking garage in Washington County; and a hydroelectric power plant for the Frostburg public water system in Allegany County. Award funding for all projects is subject to timely fulfillment of all approvals and grant requirements.

"The board of the Maryland Clean Energy Center approved 10 awards that demonstrate the incredible range of clean energy solutions and innovations that are occurring in Maryland," noted the Center's Executive Director I. Katherine Magruder. "With just under half a million dollars in federal funding, we are helping counties and municipalities across the state implement effective, efficient clean energy solutions that show the way to a cleaner, greener future."

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The mission of the Maryland Clean Energy Center is promote clean energy economic development and jobs by educating consumers, assisting businesses and advising policymakers. More information is available at http://MDCleanEnergy.org.

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