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GROUND BROKEN ON DETROIT EDISON SOLAR INSTALLATION AT MCCC

*MCCC First Educational Institution to Participate in SolarCurrents Program;
Installation to be Program's Largest on a College Campus*

MONROE, Mich. – Ground was broken today on the construction of a Detroit Edison solar installation on the Main Campus of Monroe County Community College.

The ceremony took place on the extreme eastern side of the campus on the future site of the 500-kilowatt, \$3 million photovoltaic system, which is expected to be completed February.

In July, Detroit Edison – a subsidiary of DTE Energy – and MCCC announced the signing of a 20-year agreement that will provide the utility's customers with renewable energy generated from the sun.

The installation is part of Detroit Edison's pilot *SolarCurrents* program that calls for photovoltaic systems to be installed on customer property or rooftops over the next five years to generate 15 megawatts of electricity throughout Southeast Michigan.

MCCC is the first educational institution to participate in the program, and its installation will be Detroit Edison's largest *Solar Currents* installation on a college campus.

“This \$3 million investment represents just a portion of DTE Energy’s commitment to renewable energy,” said Trevor Lauer, DTE Energy vice president, marketing and renewables. “We plan to invest \$100 million in our SolarCurrents program, and we hope that investment will reap economic development opportunities that students at Monroe County Community College will be able to pursue after they finish their studies.”

The *Solar Currents* program requires customers to participate for 20 years. The solar energy systems will be owned, installed, operated and maintained by the utility. In return, customers will get an annual payment or credit on their energy bill based on the system size, as well as a one-time, upfront construction payment to cover any inconvenience during installation.

Detroit Edison recently announced that it is building a 200-kilowatt, \$1 million solar installation on the roof of a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan parking structure in downtown Detroit. In addition, Ford Motor Company will host a 500-kilowatt solar-energy system.

Detroit Edison expects to invest nearly \$2 billion in the coming years to add more than 1,200 MW of renewable energy to meet the state’s renewable energy goals. In addition to the solar installations, the company plans to acquire or build wind farms and other green energy facilities for half of that capacity, and contract with third party vendors for the rest.

The *SolarCurrents* system at MCCC will also be used as a demonstration for alternative energy education and instruction at the college, providing an opportunity for students to observe a working photovoltaic system that will generate an equivalent amount of power that would be consumed by about 100 homes in a year.

The installation of the system builds on an already-established partnership between DTE and the college to increase the availability of renewable energy training opportunities in the region.

“It’s all about jobs, and this is yet another in a string of jobs-education partnerships between DTE Energy and MCCC,” said MCCC President Dr. David E. Nixon. “Two years ago, DTE Energy helped MCCC launch a nuclear engineering technology program. A year later with DTE’s assistance, MCCC launched the heavy and industrial construction certificate program. In May, the DTE Energy Foundation announced a \$45,000 grant and additional in-kind donation of solar equipment to MCCC in support of curriculum development to establish an alternative/renewable energy program.

“And now, DTE Energy has stepped forward again, partnering with MCCC to develop a classroom on campus for students interesting in learning about solar power. This solar array is an instructional opportunity for which MCCC would not have had funding sources, so we applaud the \$3 million investment DTE is making on our campus. We are focused on jobs for the future, and DTE has made significant contributions to those learning opportunities on the campus of Monroe County Community College.”

About Detroit Edison

Detroit Edison is an investor-owned electric utility serving 2.1 million customers in Southeastern Michigan and a subsidiary of DTE Energy (NYSE:DTE), a Detroit-based diversified energy company involved in the development and management of energy-related businesses and services nationwide. Information about DTE Energy is available at www.dteenergy.com.

About Monroe County Community College

Founded in 1964, Monroe County Community College is a public, two-year institution supported by tax monies from Monroe County, educational funds from the State of Michigan and student tuition. The college’s mission is to provide a variety of higher educational opportunities to enrich the lives of the

residents of Monroe County. The Main Campus is located on South Raisinville Road in central Monroe County with easy access to Toledo and Detroit. The Whitman Center is located in Temperance, near the Ohio-Michigan Border. Information about MCCC is available at www.monroeccc.edu.



MCCC Officials, DTE Officials, Elected Officials and Dignitaries.