

Attachment C – Solarize Jamestown Press Release

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Jamestown Kicks off Solarize Initiative *Community Pioneers The WeeGreen Platform For Solarize 2.0!*

Jamestown, R.I., – On Thursday, March 22nd, Jamestown municipal leaders joined representatives from the Office of Energy Resources, the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation and the non-profit organization SmartPower to announce the launch of the Solarize Jamestown initiative at their Open House and Sustainability Fair.

Town Administrator Andy Nota and Town Planner Lisa Bryer were in attendance and are thrilled to partner with the State and provide this program to the residents and businesses of Jamestown. The Sustainable Jamestown program currently underway is intended to be an ongoing program that provides awareness, collaboration and solutions to the many challenges Jamestown faces today and in the future. Our residents recognize that our resources are finite and a healthy environment and economy are critical to preserving our incredible quality of life. Facilitating solar power as an alternative power source in homes and businesses is a small but valuable step towards a more sustainable Jamestown and world.

Jamestown was selected as the first municipality to launch a solar program under the new Solarize 2.0 initiative which will encourage adoption of solar for homeowners and businesses this year. Municipal representatives and program administrators will be present at the kick-off event, which is part of the town's Sustainability Fair at the Jamestown Town Hall, from 5-7 p.m.

“We are excited to welcome Jamestown as our 16th community to join the Solarize program,” said State Energy Commissioner Carol Grant. “With their rich history and culture, Jamestown residents are engaged, connected and environmentally conscious, which make them ideal candidates for adopting solar power. We look forward to working with town officials, neighbors and volunteers to make this program a success.”

Solarize Rhode Island 2.0 follows on the heels of the Solarize RI program which just completed its 4th year. Solarize RI is a community-based outreach campaign that seeks to increase the adoption of small-scale solar electricity in participating communities through a competitive tiered pricing structure that increases the savings for everyone as more home and business owners sign contracts. Solarize Rhode Island, a

partnership between the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, the Commerce Corporation, and SmartPower, has led to nearly 650 residents and business owners in 15 municipalities signing contracts for small-scale solar systems.

In addition to Jamestown residents and businesses signing up for solar, the campaign will strive to educate residents about the economic and environmental benefits of solar electricity, energy efficiency and other clean energy technologies.

“Solarize Jamestown takes a leading role in helping Rhode Island achieve its clean energy goals.” said Brian F. Keane, President of SmartPower. “By pioneering the WeeGreen platform, the town of Jamestown and its residents will show the rest of the nation how easy it is to be a part of the climate solution!”

Upcoming events, open houses and information tabling in each community will be scheduled in the coming weeks. For more information about these events, to sign up or find out more about Solarize Jamestown, go to <https://solarizejamestown.wee.green> or contact Malinda Howard at: 401-261-8538.

About Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources

The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER) is the lead state agency on energy policy and programs. OER’s mission is to lead Rhode Island to a secure, cost-effective, and sustainable energy future. OER works closely with private and public stakeholders to increase the reliability and security of our energy supply, reduce energy costs and mitigate price volatility, and improve environmental quality. www.energy.ri.gov

About Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

The Rhode Island Commerce Corporation is the official economic development organization for the state of Rhode Island. The Commerce Corporation’s mission is to work with public, private and non-profit partners to create the conditions for businesses in all sectors to thrive and to improve the quality of life for our citizens by promoting the state’s long-term economic health and prosperity. The corporation manages the state’s Renewable Energy Fund, which provides grants and loans for renewable energy projects with the potential to make electricity in a cleaner, more sustainable manner, while stimulating job growth in the green technology and energy sectors of Rhode Island’s economy. www.commerceri.com

About SmartPower

SmartPower is the nation’s leading non-profit social marketing firm dedicated to promoting clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency. Named the “Best Non-profit Marketing Firm in the US”, SmartPower’s mission is to help Americans make smart energy choices by creating on-the-ground campaigns that engage the public and generate measurable energy actions. www.smartpower.org

About WeeGreen

WeeGreen is the green campaign platform. Combined with our on-line marketplace we accelerate purchases of green products by friends, families and neighbors. The campaigns engage people and communities locally, around the globe, to generate clean energy and help everyone become a part of the climate solution.