



# NEWS RELEASE

## MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL WHOLESALE ELECTRIC COMPANY

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### **Six Municipal Utilities to Participate in New Solar Project on MMWEC Campus**

(Ludlow, MA) -- February 10, 2021 - Continuing its initiative to provide opportunities to increase the carbon-free portion of its Members' power portfolios, the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC), the state's joint action agency for municipal utilities, has announced plans to construct a 7 megawatt (MW) nameplate capacity solar project on its Ludlow campus. Six MMWEC municipal utility Members are participating in the project.

The ground-mounted solar project will be built on a 30-acre section of MMWEC's 200 -acre property in Ludlow. The site is well suited for solar. After receiving responses to its request for proposals (RFP), MMWEC is working on a contract with EDF Renewables Distributed Solutions, Inc., as the project developer. In addition, MMWEC intends to maximize the use of local subcontractors in the project. Construction is scheduled to start this summer, and the project is expected to come online by late 2021.

Using its unique statutory financing authority as a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, MMWEC plans to use a local financial institution to issue tax-exempt revenue bonds to finance the project. The project's cost is estimated at \$14.5 million.

The municipal utilities located in Boylston, Ipswich, Mansfield, Marblehead, Peabody and Wakefield are participating in the project.

The project was developed in alignment with the state's decarbonization goals. It also allows for Member municipal utilities that may not have ideal locations for projects within their own communities to add more solar to their power portfolios.

MMWEC CEO Ronald C. DeCurzio said he's excited to offer this project to MMWEC Members.

"The site selected on MMWEC's campus represents an ideal location for this type of project," DeCurzio said. "We are happy to be able to provide this opportunity to our Members looking to increase their ownership of carbon-free and renewable generation. This is yet another example of the ways MMWEC and its Members use their joint action agency capabilities of vertical integration and project ownership to lead the way in incorporating new carbon-free resources, dating back to the 1980s."

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, created by an Act of the General Assembly in 1975 and authorized to issue debt to finance a wide range of energy facilities. MMWEC provides a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state's consumer-owned municipal utilities. It has 20 municipal utility members and 28 project participants. As one of 83 public power joint action agencies in the United States, MMWEC uses the strengths of working together, greater efficiency and economies of scale to help its members provide superior service at a low cost.

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