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**Renewable Solar Technology Company to Locate Manufacturing Facility in Senatobia, Miss., Create More Than 500 Jobs Over Next Five Years**

Governor Haley Barbour recently announced that Twin Creeks Technologies, a venture-backed solar technology company, is locating a solar panel manufacturing facility in Senatobia, Miss. The production facility will create 512 jobs in two phases over the next five years and represents a company investment of more than \$175 million.

The new Senatobia facility, which will be 250,000 square feet upon completion, will use the company's proprietary technology to produce photovoltaic solar panels.

The State of Mississippi provided loan assistance totaling \$50 million through the Mississippi Major Economic Impact Authority for this project. In addition, the State and the City of Senatobia will provide \$4 million for infrastructure improvements at the site.

Founded in 2008, Twin Creeks is headquartered in San Jose, Calif., with engineering and manufacturing locations in Boston and San Jose and a portfolio of over 50 patents. Twin Creeks' innovative manufacturing processes enable the company to supply solar panels at a substantially more affordable price than previous technologies allowed.

### **Community Construction, Inc. to Create 25 New Jobs with Expansion of Hazlehurst Operations**

Officials from Community Construction, Inc. (CCI), a full service pipeline contractor, recently announced an expansion of the company's operations in Hazlehurst, Miss. CCI is adding a metal fabrication shop to its Hazlehurst facility to better meet the needs of its customers. The company will create 25 new jobs at the facility, bringing the total number of employees at its Hazlehurst location to 50.

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) worked alongside company and local officials to address the company's needs and help facilitate the expansion. MDA provided assistance through the Community Development Block Grant Program, which enabled Copiah County to help the company with public infrastructure improvements essential to the expansion.

CCI is a full-service pipeline contractor with its corporate office located in Hazlehurst, Miss. CCI has additional locations in Houma, La., and Phenix City, Ala. For more information, please visit the company's Web site at [www.ccihouma.com](http://www.ccihouma.com).

### **MDA Now Accepting Applications for EECBG Stimulus Funding; Free Webinar on April 6 to Provide Info to Interested Applicants**

The Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) Stimulus and Energy Divisions will host a free Webinar on **Tuesday, April 6 at 10 a.m.** to provide information regarding the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program. This program, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), provides grants to assist municipalities and counties in developing and implementing energy efficiency programs that will reduce their energy costs and energy consumption. Eligible projects include energy efficient retrofits, energy efficient traffic signals and street lighting and renewable energy production projects.

Approximately \$6.9 million is available for this grant program, and funds are awarded through a competitive application process. Interested applicants must read the [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#) and must submit [the application](#) by **June 3, 2010, at 3 p.m.** to be considered. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided direct EECBG funding to the 10 largest cities and counties in Mississippi. Only those local units of government that did *not* receive EECBG funding directly from DOE may apply for these funds.

Webinar participants will be given an overview of the EECBG program and application process, as well as guidance on how to create a strong application. Speakers will be Manning McPhillips, MDA's Stimulus Division director, and Gayle Sims, education and outreach manager with MDA's

Energy Division. Presentations will last approximately 45 minutes and will be followed by a short Q&A session. **To register for the Webinar, visit [www.mississippi.org/webinars](http://www.mississippi.org/webinars).**

For details on the grant program, visit [www.stimulus.mississippi.org](http://www.stimulus.mississippi.org). If you have further questions about the program or the application process, please contact MDA procurement staff members Mike McCullough or Lynn Johnson Burris by fax at 601.359.5042 or email at [procurement@mississippi.org](mailto:procurement@mississippi.org).

For further information about the EECBG Webinar, call MDA at 601.359.3449 or email [mdawebinars@mississippi.org](mailto:mdawebinars@mississippi.org).

### **Schulz Xtruded Products Outreach Event Targets Small and Minority-Owned Businesses**

The Mississippi Development Authority's (MDA's) Minority and Small Business Development Division (MSBDD) and Tunica County will host the "Tunica County/Schulz Project Minority and Small Business Opportunities Outreach Event" on **Thursday, April 8, 2010, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.** at the G.W. Henderson Center, 1656 Abbay Drive in Tunica, Miss. All small and minority-owned businesses are invited to participate in the free event, but **pre-registration is required. Visit [www.mississippi.org/mptap](http://www.mississippi.org/mptap) to register, or call MSBDD at (601) 359-3448 for more information.**

The workshop is designed to introduce small and minority business owners to opportunities related to the construction of the new Schulz Xtruded Products (SXP) plant, a pipe manufacturing facility planned in Tunica County. Construction will begin by May 1, 2010. The event will also provide attendees with information regarding the requirements that must be met in order to participate in the project.

Suppliers with competencies in the following areas are encouraged to attend: foundation work, structural steel and erection services, general contracting sub trades, facilities maintenance, security services and management, ground landscaping and maintenance and more.

The "Tunica County/Schulz Project Minority and Small Business Opportunities Outreach Event" is sponsored by MDA, the Mississippi Procurement Technical Assistance Program, Wilh. Schulz GMBH, the Tunica County Chamber of Commerce and the Tunica Economic Development Foundation.

Wilh. Schulz GMBH, headquartered in Krefeld, Germany, is a leading global supplier of stainless steel pipes and piping components. Wilh. Schulz GMBH is the parent company of SXP.

**April 14 Webinar to Present Information on Recovery Zone Bond**

### **Allocations**

**On April 14 at 10:00 a.m.** , the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) will present a **free Webinar on Recovery Zone bond allocations** and how these bond programs, created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), can be used to benefit Mississippi communities. Eligible activities, the application process and the bond issuance process will be discussed at the Webinar, and all county leaders, economic developers, bond specialists and other interested parties are encouraged to participate.

Presenters will discuss the two types of Recovery Zone (RZ) bonds created by ARRA: RZ Economic Development bonds and RZ Facility bonds. These bonds, which must be issued by December 31, 2010, are designed to spur economic growth in Mississippi communities. Following the presentation on RZ bond allocations, a short Q&A session will follow to answer participants' questions.

**To register for this event, please [visit this Webinar registration site](#).** For more information, please email [mdawebinars@mississippi.org](mailto:mdawebinars@mississippi.org).

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