

TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hillsborough Township Celebrates Solar Project

Taxpayer Savings Begin With Solar and Facility Improvements

The entrance of the Hillsborough Township Municipal Complex made for a fitting backdrop for the ribbon cutting ceremony in honor of the Municipal's Green Energy Improvement project. Flanked with representatives from Siemens Industry, Inc., members of the Township Committee along with various Township Employees performed the ceremonial cut of the ribbon, marking a significant point in Hillsborough history.

A little more than a year and a half ago, Deputy Mayor Gloria McCauley at the Township Committee's Reorganization meeting, in which she was unanimously chosen Mayor, stated "the importance of making energy improvements to the municipal physical plant." That was later followed by the authorization of Siemens to prepare an Investment Grade Audit and Energy Savings Improvement plan, at no cost to the Township. The fruits of that labor are now beginning to be realized.

Earlier this year, the final steps were taken for the realization of the project when current Mayor Carl Suraci executed an Interconnection Agreement with Public Service Electric and Gas Company to allow for the inverters to be activated for the generation of solar power. During the Fourth of July Holiday, the system sent back to the grid via solar generated power approximately 1,000 kilowatt hours, which equates to an average home in Hillsborough's monthly usage.

What happened in the interim to result in solar power generation and savings for the Hillsborough taxpayers?

The Energy Savings Plan included the replacement of the municipal building's twenty year old roof and antiquated and inefficient HVAC system along with other facility improvement measures. In addition, the plan called for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at no installation cost to the Township.

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"Hillsborough Township will be saving a minimum of \$1.2 million in energy costs and now has a new roof, 34 new HVAC units, a central control system and lighting upgrades complete with solar power," commented Mayor Carl Suraci.

"It has been a long time in the making, but now worth the wait," added Deputy Mayor Gloria McCauley.

"The interesting component of this agreement was the guaranteed savings aspect. If in any year, the amount of savings falls short, Siemens will write the Township a check for the difference. As we have already seen, over the Fourth of July, any solar energy produced beyond the Township's usage is a bonus," concluded Mayor Suraci.

"This is another component in our efforts as a sustainable community, while not impacting taxes," noted Deputy Mayor McCauley.
