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Denver Mayor Vidal and DPS Celebrate the Completion of the City and School District Joint Solar Projects

DENVER, Colorado –The City and County of Denver, Denver Public Schools and Main Street Power Company Inc., a Colorado-based solar developer and financier, are celebrating the completion of a landmark two megawatt distributed solar photovoltaic (PV) project on 12 Denver Public Schools, bringing the district's total to 28 schools, and 11 City and County of Denver sites. Main Street Power was awarded these projects in 2009 in response to a competitive request for proposal issued jointly by the City and DPS.

Surrounded by students from Harrington Elementary's fourth-grade science class, Denver Mayor Guillermo (Bill) V. Vidal and DPS Chief Operating Officer David Suppes led a spirited celebration and site tour of one of the completed school projects Thursday morning.

According to Main Street Power's CEO Amory Host, "This solar project qualifies as a landmark because of the unique and creative financing mechanisms MSP and the hosts created to deliver the maximum value for the District and City and for the communities in which they operate."

This project is one of the first in the nation to combine the Federal Investment Tax Credit and the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) programs. NMTCs were designed by Congress in 2000 to spur private sector investment in economically distressed areas. Use of the NMTCs will help support job creation and deliver increased savings to municipal clients in low-income areas. Main Street Power worked in partnership with MS Solar Solutions, a subsidiary of Morgan Stanley, U.S. Bank, the Rose Urban Green Fund, and the Colorado Growth and Revitalization Fund, which is

administered by Colorado Housing Finance Authority (CHFA) to create this innovative solar agreement.

“This project is another great example of how public-private partnerships can benefit our entire community,” explained Mayor Vidal. “In this case, the City, Denver Public Schools and Main Street Power are coming together to create jobs, save taxpayer dollars and reduce pollution. We thank Main Street Power for their commitment to generating cost-effective clean energy in support of the City’s Greenprint Denver sustainability agenda.”

Denver Public Schools Chief Operating Officer David Suppes stated, “The district is excited to celebrate the completion of this project and support the district’s on-going commitment to renewable energy and lowering our annual energy costs.”

Suppes also notes the outstanding educational opportunity the partnership provides Denver students. On-site and web-based solar energy monitoring gives students a direct connection with solar panel production. In partnership with the City and County of Denver and Xcel Energy, DPS has 28 schools with solar panels – 12 of which were provided by Main Street Power and all of which have [web-based monitoring systems](#) so students can track energy usage.

In all, the Main Street Power solar panel projects at a dozen DPS schools are expected to save the district \$500,000 over the course of the 20-year partnership with Main Street. The solar photovoltaic installation program will provide roughly 2 percent of the school district’s electric needs with clean, renewable energy. DPS also received a solar curriculum from Main Street Power that will educate and prepare students for a continuously changing economy. “The solar training workshops are an original and creative way to introduce students to solar energy,” Suppes said.

According to Main Street Power’s Senior Vice President, J.W. Postal, “Thursday’s celebration is an opportunity for us to thank all of our partners and specifically the City and the District for their leadership in going solar. We also want to celebrate the students of Harrington Elementary for their interest in learning about the benefits of clean renewable energy”.

MS Solar Solutions will also join in the celebration for completing these innovative solar projects. These projects are an excellent example of how to help public schools and local government make the switch to renewable energy. We want to congratulate the District, the City and our partners at Main Street Power for completing these projects,” said Martin Mobley, Vice President of MS Solar Solutions.

About Main Street Power Company, Inc

Main Street Power Company, Inc. is a developer and financier of solar projects across North America. The Company works primarily with schools, municipalities, universities, corporations, homebuilders and nonprofit entities to provide a

complete turn-key solar system with no upfront capital outlay. Services include power purchase agreements and other innovative financing solutions. On each unique solar project, Main Street Power forms local partnerships with installers, electricians, engineers, general contractors, unions and workforce development groups.

Please visit Main Street Power's website for additional information at:
www.mainstreetpower.com

If you would like more information about this topic or would like to schedule an interview, please contact: press@mainstreetpower.com or contact Jonathan W. Postal (J.W.) at: 720-381-4617.

Project Finance and Legal Partners: Colorado Housing and Finance Authority, Rose Urban Green Fund, U.S. Bank, Morgan Stanley, MS Solar Solutions, Kutak Rock, LLP, Holland & Hart, Venture Law Partners.

Construction Partners: Milender White Construction/MW Solar, Encore Electric, Boulder Engineering, JVA Engineering.

Technology Partners: Canadian Solar (PV Panels), Satcon (inverters), Panel Claw (racking) and Also Energy (monitoring, billing and flat screen displays).