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SOLAR POWER FACILITY ON GULF COAST



By: Shelby Myers

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South Mississippi Electric celebrated the first solar power generation facilities on the Mississippi Gulf Coast today.

The company held a ribbon cutting in the Kiln and in Lucedale for their first two solar power facilities. The

company plans to open a total of five such facilities in the state.

SME provides electricity to 11 distribution cooperative members, including Coast and Singing River Electric Power. Coast and Singing River Electric both agreed to provide land for the facilities which are located next to their respective headquarters. Coast Electric CEO and President Robert Occhi said, "This adds more diversity to their generation mix. South Mississippi already has nuclear power, they have coal power, natural gas, hydroelectric and now they have solar." Solar is considered one of the leading forms of environmentally friendly energy. Panels are used to collect sunlight that is converted into electricity.