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Four Lakes Group

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release: April 22, 2016

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Sierra Club Commends Dane County for New Solar/Renewable Energy Project

MADISON-Today Dane County unveiled its newest clean energy project—a 222 kw solar project at the Highway Garage/Medical Examiner buildings just east of the Dane County landfill on County Hwy AB. It will also take advantage of waste heat from the landfill's electricity generated from methane, making that a more efficient co-generation plant.

Dane County will now be home to the two largest municipality-owned solar in Wisconsin, and a leading edge renewable energy powered co-generation plant. The landfill also generates natural gas used to power many county vehicles. These projects are a win-win-win in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, providing cheap power and heat, and providing cost efficient public services to taxpayers.

“What better way to celebrate the 46th anniversary of Earth Day than to see the county taking steps to move us to a cleaner, better future? This project will continue the move towards the clean energy economy that Dane County, and all of Wisconsin needs,” said Dave Blouin, Chair of the Sierra Club-Four Lakes Group.

This project will triple the amount of solar the County has installed. “Dane County is showing the leadership our community values in moving off of coal as quickly as possible to stop the worst effects of climate change and ensure clean air and water for all. Dane County's solar and co-generation project will move us closer to getting off of coal,” said Don Ferber, Conservation Chair of the Sierra Club-Four Lakes Group.

“It's great to see Dane County moving us forward at a time when utilities are working against the demands of their customers for more clean energy,” said Elizabeth Ward, Program Coordinator for the Sierra Club-John Muir Chapter. “We thank Dane County Executive, Joe Parisi, and the Dane County Board of Supervisors for their leadership in securing a brighter future for our community.”

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Founded in 1892 by John Muir, the Sierra Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. The Sierra Club's mission is to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out those objectives. The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter is made up of 15,000 members and supporters working to promote clean energy and protect water resources in Wisconsin. The Four Lakes Group is made up of members and supporters in Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Rock and Sauk Counties.