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Solarize Brooklyn tells neighbors: “Don’t do solar alone!”

Solarize Brooklyn is a group of neighbors working to bring cost-effective solar power to our neighborhoods on a large scale.

This summer, residents of Kensington, Windsor Terrace, Flatbush, and surrounding neighborhoods will have a unique opportunity to go solar thanks to a grass-roots program designed to bring cost-effective solar power to Brooklyn residents. Inspired by similar programs around the country, *Solarize Brooklyn* educates homeowners about the benefits of solar power while helping them save money on solar installations through community purchasing power. This is the first program of its kind in New York City.

Solarize Brooklyn is organized by two local groups, Sustainable Kensington Windsor Terrace and Sustainable Flatbush. It is led by volunteers that want to help their neighbors go solar. Advising the project is Solar One, a local nonprofit green, energy, arts, and education center.

The *Solarize Brooklyn* program offers options for solar photovoltaic (electric) and solar thermal (hot water) systems. Two expert solar installers were selected through an open, competitive process that considered experience and qualifications, pricing, and commitment to local job training and employment. The provider selected for solar thermal is Quixotic Systems, based in Manhattan. The provider selected for solar photovoltaic is EmPower Solar, based in Long Beach. Each provider is offering free solar assessments, special pricing, and discounts through the program.

Neighborhood residents will have until June 30 to sign up for a free solar assessment. Community education sessions will be held on June 15 at the Windsor Terrace Y, June 17 at the Park Slope Library, June 26 at the Flatbush Y. Brooklyn residents can find more details on the program and sign up for the education sessions and solar assessments at www.solarizebrooklyn.org.

Solar installations will take place in late 2013 and early 2014. Organizers anticipate that the program will more than double the number of solar installations in the neighborhoods served.

About the Solarize Brooklyn Partners and Providers

Sustainable Kensington Windsor Terrace and **Sustainable Flatbush** are grass-roots neighborhood organizations whose common missions are to build community through education and actions that reduce our environmental impact. Visit www.sustainablekwt.blogspot.com and www.sustainableflatbush.org for more information.

Solar One is an NYC-based nonprofit green energy, arts and education center whose mission is to empower people with the knowledge and resources to unleash and build sustainability in their communities. Visit www.solar1.org to learn more about Solar One's programs and public events.

EmPower Solar is a leading solar engineering and installation company serving residential and commercial markets in New York. Since 2003, EmPower has installed over 600 residential, commercial and non-profit solar power systems in the Tri-State Area. Additionally, EmPower has consulted on many solar and alternative fuel infrastructure projects throughout the country, including solar powered hydrogen fueling systems and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. EmPower is committed to the EmPowering Way operating philosophy, defined by the highest quality work and professionalism. More information about EmPower can be found online at www.EmPower-Solar.com.

Founded in 1999 and based in New York City, **Quixotic Systems** (www.quixotic-systems.com) designs, engineers and installs innovative solar energy systems that meet complex engineering and architectural challenges. Quixotic is NYSERDA certified for both solar thermal and solar electric (PV) installations, NABCEP certified in solar thermal and a licensed New York City general contractor. The company, through its principal, holds three US utility patents for solar technology products.

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