

Newsrelease

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Team Dutchess Ready for SpectraWatt

Poughkeepsie, NY – Dutchess County Executive William R. Steinhaus and Dutchess County Economic Development Corporation President John MacEnroe met late yesterday with David O'Connor, Vice President of Business Development for SpectraWatt to coordinate the cohesive, ongoing assistance that Team Dutchess will be providing SpectraWatt as they begin their relocation to Dutchess County. Other members of Team Dutchess who participated in today's meeting included the Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board, Dutchess Community College, and other representatives of the DCEDC.

Last month, SpectraWatt, Inc., a manufacturer of photovoltaic cells used by solar module suppliers, announced they would be relocating to Dutchess County. The *first* solar manufacturing plant in New York State, SpectraWatt is expected to invest up to \$81 million to begin operations at the Hudson Valley Research Park in East Fishkill and anticipates creating at least 160 new jobs in the next three years.

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“Economic development does not end with the announcement of a new company coming to Dutchess County,” said County Executive Steinhaus. “Our work with companies is continuous and ongoing, paving the way for a smooth transition to our community and helping to ensure sustained business success.”

The various partners of “Team Dutchess” will be working closely with SpectraWatt during the relocation, and as they begin operations in Dutchess County. The Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board (DCWIB) will help SpectraWatt take advantage of grant opportunities to assist with new hire training. Dutchess County Tourism, a division of the DCEDC, will be providing information about the area that may be helpful to SpectraWatt employees who will be moving into Dutchess County. Additionally, Dutchess Community College will be working with SpectraWatt to tailor technical and professional development courses for employees based on company needs.

John MacEnroe, President and CEO of DCEDC said, “We will be coordinating a continuous integrated activity level with all of our partners, so we are all collaborating to provide SpectraWatt with whatever resources they need to be successful.”

“Partnership and collaboration equal success. This is how we do business in Dutchess County and that is why we have been successful attracting innovative, cutting edge companies like SpectraWatt,” concluded County Executive Steinhaus.

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The Dutchess County Economic Development Corporation (DCEDC) is a private, nonprofit organization serving the cities, towns, and villages of Dutchess County. Funded annually by the county, the county's Industrial Development Agency, and through private-sector investment, the DCEDC supports and promotes business development in Dutchess County through a variety of business attraction, expansion, and entrepreneurial development programs.

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