



OCC in Attendance at Somers Solar Facility Dedication Ceremony

On November 22, 2013, Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz and Principal Attorney Joseph A. Rosenthal of the Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) attended a dedication ceremony for a new solar facility in Somers, Connecticut. The project is currently the state's largest solar installation. Dominion, one of the nation's largest energy companies, owns the 5-megawatt solar project on Route 83 near Cedar Knob Golf Course.

The Somers Solar Project was selected for a power purchase agreement through a competitive bidding process pursuant to Section 127 of Public Act 11-80. An OCC team worked with representatives of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Connecticut Energy Finance and Investment Authority (CEFIA), and others to select the Somers project along with a solar farm in East Lyme. The Connecticut Light & Power Company (CL&P) will buy the power from the Somers project under a 20-year agreement.

Solar projects, both on a large scale as well as a smaller commercial and residential scale, are becoming more popular in Connecticut. This is due in large part to reduced prices, improving technology, and changes in law.



Consumer Counsel Elin Swanson Katz is the third from the left and Principal Attorney Joseph A. Rosenthal is the second from the left.