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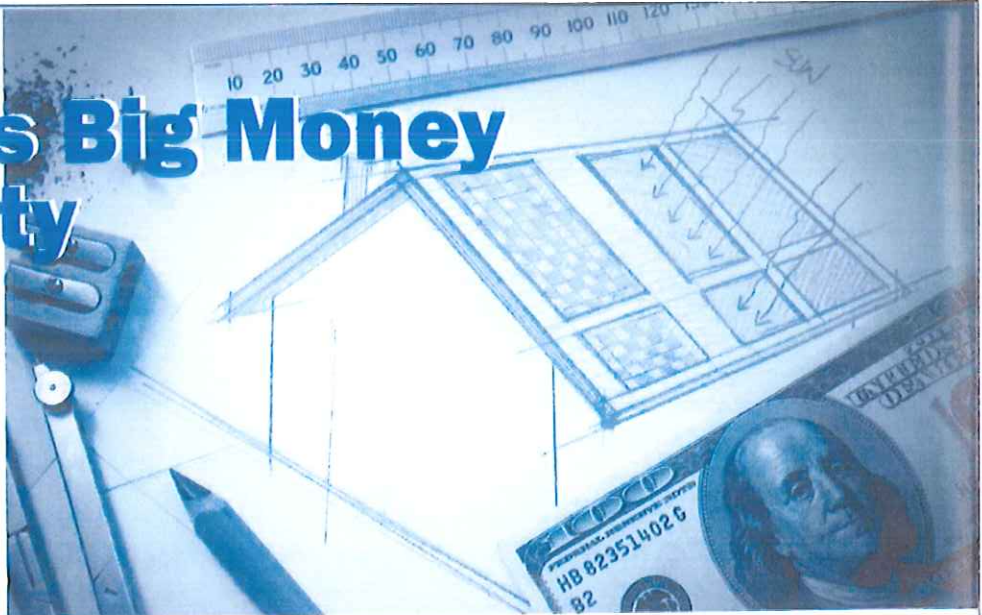
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Solar Saves Big Money for Authority

Earlier this summer, PMAA Member **Northampton Bucks County Municipal Authority's** solar panel array was unveiled. The panels will provide 70% of the power for one of the authority's well houses.

Daniel Lapato, Deputy Director of DEP's Office of External Affairs, was on hand for the unveiling. He said, "Solar, wind, natural gas, these are some of the energy sources available in Pennsylvania, and this project is a great example of clean energy that will save money for both the authority and its ratepayers."

The well house contains equipment that draws water from the ground and then pumps it out to some of the authority's 11,000 water customers.



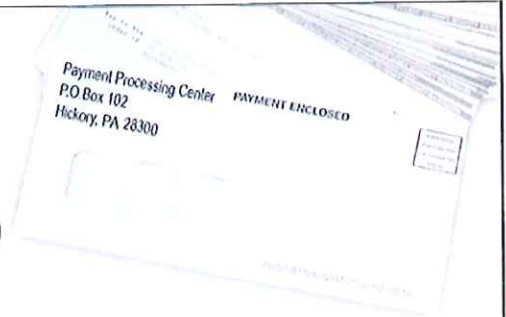
The house and array are located close to the authority's headquarters.

The solar panel array, which is 175 feet long and 15 feet wide, contains 150 panels. The array was part of a power-purchase agreement with Moore Energy Systems of Upper Southampton, the company that installed the \$193,000 solar system. Max Solar, a company in

New Jersey, paid for the installation and owns the solar array. For that investment in green energy, the company gets a \$57,915 corporate tax credit from the federal government, or 30% of the solar system's cost. It also gets a \$22,000 rebate from the state government. Max Solar then sells the electricity generated by the solar array to the Northampton Authority at 20% below normal PECO rates.

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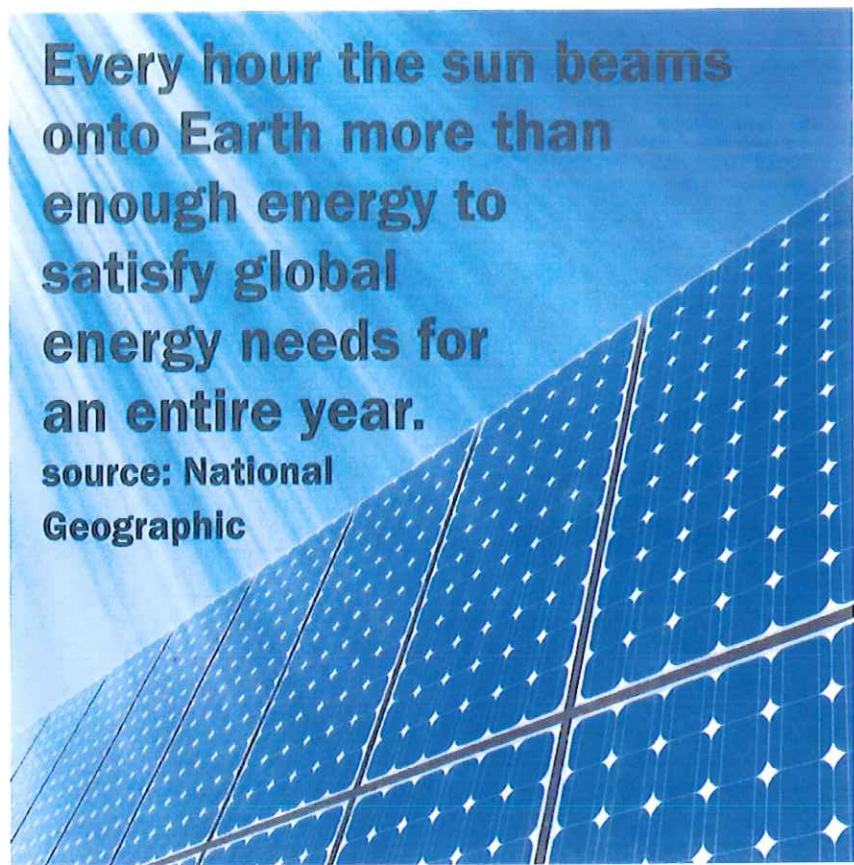
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The solar panel array will save the authority, which also has 14,000 sewer customers, \$1,300 in electricity costs during the first year and about \$200,000 over the next 25 years, said Lapato.

The solar array has a 25-year warranty but the Moore company says it should last for 50 years.

"It's so much cleaner than energy from fossil fuel sources," said Lapato. "It will save 60,000 pounds of greenhouse gases from being released into the atmosphere."



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