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Press Release

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DCPSC reports significant growth in solar energy and community renewable energy facilities in the District

(Washington, D.C.) Today, the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) issued its Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) Report for Compliance Year 2020 to the D.C. Council. The RPS Report provides an update on the Commission's progress in implementing the RPS program to help the District achieve its clean energy and climate change goals. This year's report highlights significant growth in solar energy generator applications and Community Renewable Energy Facilities (CREFs) in the District. In 2019 and 2020, the Commission received and processed 1,591 and 2,835 applications, respectively. The increase of applications reflects both the Commission's success in streamlining the certification and compliance process and increased demand for solar energy generators. The RPS Report also notes that:

- CREFs have jumped from a total of 12 certified facilities in 2019 to 137 by the end of 2020.
- There are 11,402 solar energy systems certified to meet the District's solar RPS requirement, of which 8,661 are located within the District.
- The total solar energy capacity certified to meet the 2020 RPS is 165.0 megawatts (MW).
- District-based RPS certified solar energy capacity has increased from 91.7 MW during April 2020 to 130.6 MW during April 2021.
- Currently, the RPS-certified solar energy capacity located in DC is more than three times the amount of out-of-state RPS-certified solar energy capacity (about 34.4 MW).

Chairman Willie L. Phillips stated, "With these recent updates, the District continues to make progress to be powered by 100% renewable energy by 2032. This major increase of renewable energy facilities reflects the District's aggressive climate change and solar energy programs for District residents and businesses. The Commission is proud of the enormous success of the RPS program during the past year to help bring renewable energy to every ward in the city."

Every year, the Commission is required to provide an update on the status of RPS implementation. The report includes data on the number of renewable energy generators approved by the Commission and the availability of renewable resources in the District. The report also includes the number of renewable energy credits (RECs) retired by the electricity suppliers to meet the RPS requirements. And, the report provides data on the compliance fees paid by electricity suppliers that did not acquire enough RECs or solar RECs to meet the RPS requirements. This RPS report fulfills the reporting requirements outlined in the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act and amended by the CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018.