

PRESS RELEASE
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Another Green Company joins the Davidson, NC business incubator

In Davidson, the incubator "Project for innovation, Energy and Sustainability (acronym "PiES") continues to attract and grow businesses in the renewal and clean energy sector.

PiES provides office space as well as business guidance and services from business counselors and academic advisors. The incubator, launched in January, has accepted its first two member companies in June, and last week its newest member, Sustainable Energy Community Development Corporation (SECDC).

SECDC includes a roster of well-known politicians and attorneys, including former Matthews Mayor and Legislator, Shawn LeMond. He was recruited by the principles of SECDC to develop and launch the company. SEDC is engaged in bundling New Market Tax Credits with federal and state renewable energy tax credits. The goal is to create new models for renewable energy installations of North Carolina manufactured and installed solar systems in rural and low income areas. "Our new financing model would lure otherwise disinterested third party investment into installations" according to LeMond, Vice President & COO. SECDC would be engaged in turnkey financing, installation and operation of these installations.

The company's first pilot project is in Plymouth, NC in Washington County, whose poverty rate now exceeds 37%. The SECDC project will provide significant and immediate local economic activity. SECDC currently has 2 employees and plans to grow to 8-15 by the end of 2011, including sales/marketing and project managers. They have been accepted as a full resident member at PiES.

PiES has partnered with the Town of Davidson and the Lake Norman Economic Development Corporation as well as the Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce and Central Piedmont Community College to provide business assistance. "This community based initiative is a successful pilot project which will be duplicated in other communities under PiES guidance, and can provide a transferable model for innovations at the local level in the green jobs sector" according to Ian Ferguson, founding board member, whose history includes numerous successful startups during his tenure at other academic institutions before arriving last fall at UNCC. The partnership was successful in receiving one of the first stimulus grants conferred by the NC Department of Energy in partnership with the Main Street program, under the direction of the federal Department of Energy.

More information regarding SECDC can be found at www.secdc.net PiES is located in The Business Center @ South Main Square in downtown Davidson. For further information visit: www.pies-northcarolina.org