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**Date:** 5/5/2015 10:54:32 AM  
**Subject:** Terreni Law Firm News - Solar Energy in SC - New Weatherization Fund

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**May 2015**

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## **Newsbrief**

### **What's New at Terreni Law Firm, LLC**

The warm weather has us thinking about sunshine and solar energy!

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## **Firm Updates**

Charlie Terreni discussed recent developments in public utility law on a panel at the National Association of Water Companies' Southeast Chapter Summit on April 30, 2015 in Charleston.

## **New Grant to make Senior South Carolinians' Homes Energy-Efficient**

On Friday, May 1, Lieutenant Governor Henry McMaster announced that Duke Energy Carolinas will make a one-million dollar donation that will enable senior citizens in South Carolina to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. A press conference was held for the official announcement, and attendees included representatives from the Central Carolina Community Foundation, the Office of Regulatory Staff, and Sustaining Our Seniors, a non-profit organization committed to promoting wellness among South Carolina's seniors.

Coretta Bedsole, Associate State Director of Advocacy for AARP South Carolina, speaks at the May 1 press conference, with Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster; Dukes Scott, Executive Director of ORS; Clark Gillespy, President of Duke Energy South Carolina; and JoAnn Turnquist, President of Central Carolina Community Foundation.

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## Solar Energy in South Carolina: A Tour of the Colleton Solar Farm

Construction of South Carolina's first solar farm began in late 2013 in Colleton County as a joint venture between Santee Cooper and South Carolina's electric cooperatives. A collaboration with North Charleston-based TIG Sun Energy I, LLC, the project was completed in December 2013 after the plan was accelerated in order to meet federal tax credit deadlines. The solar farm is the embodiment of a commitment made by Santee Cooper and the electric cooperatives back in 2001 to develop renewable electricity sources throughout the state of South Carolina.

The solar farm spans 14.27 acres and is made up of 10,010 Canadian Solar CS6X-300P modules. Both fixed-tilt and single-axis tracking panels are used as a means of balancing capacity and costs. The expected lifespan of the system is a minimum of approximately 25 years.

The first full day of operation for the Colleton Solar Farm was December 21, 2013. In its first year, through December 20, 2014, the 15-acre site generated 4,687 megawatt-hours (MWh), which was 5 percent more than expected in year one. That extra energy is enough to power more than 1,200 light bulbs (60 watts) for eight hours a day. All told, the 3-megawatt complex provides enough energy to power more than 300 homes.

Mike Smith of Central Electric Power Cooperative  
leads a tour of the Solar Farm for members of a USC Law School Energy Law class

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