

*Precision Flow Technologies, a Local Company, Receives Portion of Funds; Announces it Will Expand its Operations and Locate at Tech City*

*Lake Katrine, NY* - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that he's secured Congress' final approval of \$2.8 million for partners of The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC) -- C9 Corporations, L-3 Communications, Precision Flow Technologies, and NanoDynamics-88 -- to continue their development of high-tech solar and LED products for the U.S. military. In order to accommodate an increasing workload, which is resulting in new jobs in Ulster County, Precision Flow Technologies announced that it's expanding its operations and moving into Tech City.

"This federal funding serves as a further investment in the solar energy sector that is helping to power the Hudson Valley's economy for years to come," Hinchey said. "The work that Precision Flow Technologies will be doing at Tech City will enable C9 and other TSEC partners to produce high quality solar and LED products for the U.S. military. Private companies will also have the need for this technology, which will help spur job growth at Tech City and throughout the region as Precision Flow Technologies, C9 and the rest of TSEC's partners keep up with demand."

Hinchey requested the funds as part of the fiscal year 2010 Defense Appropriations bill, to which the House and Senate just gave final approval. The funds will be used in part by Precision Flow Technologies to manufacture the highly sophisticated tools needed by C9 and the other companies to develop the solar and LED technology for the military. It's expected that the technology will also be able to be used in various commercial products.

Precision Flow Technologies' move to Tech City adds to the number of solar and renewable energy companies that are locating at the facility. The company, which is headquartered in Saugerties and will keep much of its operations there, is expanding into a 40,000 square foot space at Tech City. The company currently has 185 employees and is hiring 20 new workers to work at Tech City on a variety of solar-related projects with a total of 50-60 new employees expected to be hired at Tech City within one year. The work the company is doing in conjunction with C9 for the military will result in the creation of 5-7 new jobs.

C9 currently has a contract with the U.S. Department of Defense to develop Silicon

Carbide-type semiconductors for the military to use with solar and LED applications. C9 and Precision Flow Technologies are collaborating with TSEC and serve as a link between the consortium and the federal government for future partnerships. Over the past three years, Hinchey has successfully secured \$8.4 million for C9 and its partners.

The Defense Department supports silicon carbide-based semiconductor/solar and LED development for its use in powering hand-held and backpack devices for troops, the recharging of unmanned ground and aerial reconnaissance platforms, and for Hybrid Electric Combat Vehicle drive trains. To date, there has been a lack of success in manufacturing low defect silicon carbide semiconductor grade material. The New York-based C9 Corporation is overcoming these difficulties by creating new, man-made silicon carbide materials and processes that it believes will revolutionize semiconductor/solar manufacturing. This technology will have widespread applications for the military as well as by private sector power utilities, automotive, aerospace and computer and control related industries.

Hinchey has now secured more than \$25 million in federal funds for TSEC and its partners with additional funding to be announced in the coming weeks that will increase that figure to nearly \$30 million. The congressman helped organize and create TSEC in 2007. The consortium is an industry-driven, non-profit organization that provides leadership, organization, resources, and support for the establishment of a major solar energy industry cluster in New York. The consortium has partnered with more than 70 small and large companies, including nearly a dozen that have already created 200 jobs in the Hudson Valley and collectively plan to bring more than 1,000 new jobs to upstate New York within the next five years.

"As the U.S. continues to invest heavily in renewable energy, the federal government and private companies are going to turn to the Hudson Valley for the products they need to meet that growing demand," Hinchey said. "This funding will help promote the growth of the solar industry in our area now, while continuing to lay the groundwork for more substantial growth over the next several years. We've already seen the creation of 200 jobs in the Hudson Valley and we know that continued investments like these will grow that new jobs figure exponentially."

To further his ability to secure funds for solar energy initiatives, Hinchey gained a seat earlier this year on the powerful and influential House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, which has enabled him to direct increased funding to advance the research and development of solar energy products for defense and commercial applications. The congressman said that he believes TSEC is well-positioned to take the lead on a wide array of those solar projects. As the single largest consumer of energy in the world, the U.S. military stands to benefit greatly from investments in solar energy products. Hinchey noted that a greater commitment to renewable

energy will lower the military's operational costs, reduce the frequency that combat troops need to refuel and repower equipment, and help the environment through lower greenhouse gas emissions.