



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 11, 2011

Contact: Chris Davis, Communications Manager
Office: 865-974-4736
E-mail: cdavi105@tennessee.edu
Website: <http://solar.tennessee.edu>

Free solar photovoltaic code compliance courses offered in Nashville *Courses designed for codes officials, utilities, and contractors*

NASHVILLE – The Tennessee Solar Institute is offering free one-day workshops on solar photovoltaic permitting and inspection training in Nashville on Aug. 11 and 12. These workshops will provide building officials, contractors and utility representatives with the basic background needed to properly inspect the PV system installations they will encounter. As demand for solar photovoltaic (PV) electrical systems has increased due to lower installation costs and incentives, this eight-hour workshop addresses a need for those responsible for code enforcement or who need to keep up with the latest code requirements.

The workshops will be led by Bill Brooks, who has trained more than 5,000 inspectors around the nation on proper plan-checking and field-inspection procedures. The Aug. 11 workshop is designed for contractors and utility representatives. The Aug. 12 workshop is targeted toward codes officials and building inspectors. At the conclusion of both workshops, participants will be issued CEU completion certificates.

The workshop agenda is packed full of useful and pertinent information, including:

- The expedited permit process
- An introduction to relevant codes and standards
- Summary of PV installation issues
- PV-critical issues in the National Electrical Code (NEC)
- An inspector checklist for PV systems

The workshops will be held at 1604 Elm Hill Pike (Associated Building and Contractors, Mid-Tennessee Chapter), Nashville. The session times are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on both days. Lunch will be provided, and completion certificates will be awarded.

Please note: The August 11 session (Thursday) will be open to contractors and utility representatives.

The August 12 session (Friday) will be open to codes officials and building inspectors.

To register for a workshop or to obtain information, contact:

Patricia Wells
UT Center for Industrial Services
(615) 253-6371
patricia.wells@tennessee.edu

###

The Tennessee Solar Institute is part of the Volunteer State Solar Initiative, a comprehensive solar energy and economic development program that was established using \$62.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding received by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.

This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy under Award Number DE-EE0000160.

About Tennessee Solar Institute

The Tennessee Solar Institute (TSI) is a center of excellence between the University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory that brings together scientists, engineers and technical experts with business leaders and policymakers to help speed the deployment of solar technology. Its mission is to advance the understanding of solar innovation and to inspire new ideas that speed the development and implementation of solar-based technology in Tennessee. TSI is housed at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. For more information, visit <http://solar.tennessee.edu>.

About Bill Brooks:

Bill Brooks has trained over 5,000 inspectors around the nation on proper plan checking and field inspection procedures. He is a member of several codes and standards committees including UL1703 (PV Modules) and UL1741 (Inverters) and for the NEC, Code Making Panel 4 that oversees Article 690 (Solar Photovoltaic Systems). He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University and is a registered professional engineer in North Carolina and California.