Mayor Kenney – Go Solar, Employ Philadelphians!

I am excited about the City’s momentum towards increasing renewable energy in Philadelphia and I fully support the City’s commitment to lead by example to advance a just transition to renewable energy. I urge you to take the following actions, by the end of June 2018, to advance the goal you set to meet 100% of city government’s electricity needs from renewable sources by 2030:

- Select an energy supplier and project (sited as close to Philadelphia as possible) for the power purchase agreement (long-term renewable energy contract) it is currently reviewing bids for. Fully enforce the Economic Opportunity Plan in the contract detailing minority hiring goals.
- Complete and publish the analysis of all City-owned roof space, assets, and other properties in the region available for siting solar panels.
- Release a new Request for Proposals for an on-site renewable energy power purchase agreement within the city.
- Convene large institutions in Philadelphia to discuss collectively or individually entering into renewable energy power purchase agreements.

In addition, I urge you to make the commitment that by 2020, the City of Philadelphia will generate at least 30% of the electricity used in government-owned buildings, departments and street lights from local solar projects from the five county region, including installations on City-owned buildings and property. I ask that you ensure that the jobs created by solar development spurred from this commitment will go to Philadelphia residents, with a commitment to ensuring the workforce reflects the racial demographics of the city as closely as possible and are under union conditions.

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For more information: Green Justice Philly Steering Committee and tracy@delawareriverkeeper.org