

Wixom Mayor Kevin Hinkley – “Wixom’s Time Has Come, Again!”



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Thursday, September 10th Governor Granholm, Ford Chairman Bill Ford Jr., Mayor Kevin Hinkley and notable others, announced the development of a \$725M “Renewable Energy Park” at the Ford site. Three companies: Clairvoyant Energy and Oerlikon Solar (solar panel manufacturing) and Xtreme Power (large scale power storage systems) will anchor the site creating 4,000 jobs in the next two years. Indirect jobs creation is estimated at an additional 10,000.

Since the news of the closing of the Ford Wixom Assembly Plant broke in 2006, the City Administration has worked at great length with Ford Motor Company. When Ford came to the City with their “Renewable Energy Park” concept the City took immediate action by forming an internal development team and involving local and state legislators as well as the Governor to assist Ford in re-purposing the 318 acre, 4.7 million square foot plant. Mayor Kevin Hinkley stated “this new alternative energy campus will be the catalyst for our new economy with Wixom leading the way as the nation’s destination for renewable energy products”.

Chairman Bill Ford Jr. stated “through this effort, we’re going to put this plant and our skilled workers of Michigan back to work”. The Governor was quoted as saying “this is symbolic of Michigan’s transformation”.

Carlos Coe, president and CEO of XTreme Power, commended the collaborative effort by saying “in the next 24 months, you will see the next generation of power systems for the 21st century”. Clairvoyant Energy CEO David Hardee shared his feelings that “this project could do for Michigan what the silicone valley did for California”. Mayor Hinkley extended his thanks to local and state legislators, Ford Motor Company, Clairvoyant Energy, Oerlikon Solar and XTreme Power right up to the Governor. A special note of thanks was extended to City Manager Mike Dornan. “Mike was available 24/7” Hinkley said. “Other communities should only be so lucky”. The Mayor concluded by saying “The people in Michigan rebound and work hard, and through a collaborative effort we got it done. It is no longer the Wixom Ford Plant, but a Renewable Energy Park”.

Stay tuned to the City’s website (www.cityofwixom.com)!