

# A Workforce Development Study in Solar Technology & Ecoentrepreneurship for the Greater Milledgeville Region

## Site Visit

Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Student Activities Center | S. Liberty St., Milledgeville, GA 31061

We are thrilled to announce a special site visit event for a PIN Community Research project, "A Workforce Development Study in Solar Technology & Ecoentrepreneurship for the Greater Milledgeville Region." This initiative is providing solar workforce training along with entrepreneurial skills development, equipping individuals to install solar systems and start their own solar businesses. The City of Milledgeville proudly supports this endeavor.

We encourage anyone interested in sustainable energy and workforce development to join us. Learn about the solar workforce development and entrepreneurship program, hear from city officials about the importance of green tech investments, and visit the City's new water treatment facility for an on-site demonstration of the solar array.

Please RSVP by contacting Nicholas Creel at [nicholas.creel@gcsu.edu](mailto:nicholas.creel@gcsu.edu). Thank you for your commitment to community well-being. We look forward to sharing this exciting milestone with you.

Visit Solar Array | Milledgeville Water Treatment Facility | 12:15 p.m.

### Project Description

In collaboration with the Georgia College and State University (GCSU), the [Presbyterian College](#) in Clinton, SC, and the [City of Milledgeville](#), this initiative will enhance workforce development in the solar technology industry. Nicholas Creel, Director of GCSU's [Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship](#) will work with researchers from GCSU's [College of Arts and Sciences](#), [College of Education](#), and the Presbyterian College to launch a certificate program in solar power systems combined with business education for aspiring entrepreneurs in the green energy sector. The development of this certificate will in turn offer cost-free education in solar technology development.



The program aligns with the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) [Pathway for Veterans](#) (PV) Associate exams standards, addressing the lack of accessible certification options in the middle and south regions of Georgia. Anticipated outcomes include workforce development, economic growth, increased clean tech adoption, and a replicable model for the southeastern United States. By providing hands-on experience and relevant skills, the project strives to build a sustainable, eco-conscious workforce and economy.

## **Project Team**

- Nicholas Creel, Assistant Professor of Business Law and the Director of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Georgia College & State University (GCSU), Project Lead
- Hasitha Mahabaduge, Associate Professor of Physics in the College of Arts and Sciences, GCSU
- Rui Kang, Professor of Mathematics and Secondary Education in the College of Education, GCSU
- Ben Bailey, Associate Professor of Political Science, Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina
- Hank Griffeth, City Manager, Milledgeville