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Solaicx Opens Portland Wafers Plant

Associated Press 11.21.07, 12:03 PM ET

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PORTLAND, ORE. -Solaicx has officially opened its Portland manufacturing facility, where it will make silicon wafers for the photovoltaic industry.

The California-based company announced in June that it would open a manufacturing facility in a Port of Portland industrial district.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski was on hand for the opening ceremony Tuesday. He said the plant is a big step in bringing "green collar jobs" to Oregon and growing the state's renewable energy economy.

Solaicx's solar plant will begin production with about 32 megawatts of solar ingots and wafers a year, initially creating about 100 jobs. At full capacity, it will employ more than 180 people and produce 180 megawatts a year worth of solar ingots and wafers.

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