

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# GIANT COMPLETES PHASE ONE OF SOLAR DEVELOPMENT AT CARLISLE SUPPORT OFFICE

Company Completes Rooftop Solar System and Breaks Ground on Solar Array

CARLISLE, Pa., April 25 2019 – In celebration of Earth Week, <u>GIANT Food Stores</u> announced today the completion of the first phase of a 2.4MW solar project at its Carlisle, Pa., support office, located at 1149 Harrisburg Pike. GIANT company officials marked the completion of phase one, a 625kw rooftop solar array, with a ribbon cutting ceremony, attended by Pennsylvania Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection Patrick McDonnell, Pennsylvania State Representative Barbara Gleim as well as representatives from EnterSolar, the project's developer, and PPL Electric.

"There's no better time than Earth Week to celebrate this significant milestone in GIANT'S sustainability program and it's especially gratifying to do so at our home office," said Manuel Haro, vice president of strategy, GIANT Food Stores. "At GIANT, we strive to make every day Earth Day, and that's why we continuously explore new and innovative ways to reduce our operational footprint. Our rooftop solar project is just one of many ways we are making good on the promise we made to the communities we serve - to be a good neighbor and do our part to protect and preserve the planet for future generations."

GIANT'S solar project is being designed and developed by EnterSolar, and managed onsite by Retail Business Services, the services company of Ahold Delhaize USA. The project began in December 2018 and received permission to operate last month. The rooftop solar project consists of 1,812 panels that convert sunlight into a flow of clean electricity that feeds directly to GIANT'S electrical system housed within the building. This provides an effective powering of a portion of the building's energy needs from a renewable onsite source.

"Addressing climate change and reducing our reliance fossil fuels will require commitments from companies like GIANT to take an active role in changing how we think about the energy we use," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "Switching to renewable sources and increasing energy efficiency will both save the company money and improve the environment."

During months of high solar resource and low building energy needs, the solar array can provide more energy than the building consumes. The excess solar energy is metered, sent back into the surrounding utility grid and absorbed by other homes and business in the area, enabling GIANT to receive energy credits that can be used in low solar production months. GIANT is still connected to the PPL grid for electric supply when solar energy is insufficient for the buildings needs.

GIANT also announced that work on the second phase of the project, a 1.83 MW ground-mounted solar array, was underway. The ground-mounted array will consist of an estimated 4,968 panels spanning nearly five acres of land on the corporate campus.

The company also plans to incorporate 'pollinator habitats' to support bees and other pollinators in an effort to address bee colony loss. Pennsylania is one of the states being hit hardest, with a honeybee die-off rate of more than 60 percent. GIANT will work with EnterSolar and local landscape and environmental teams to plant native plant species and flowers that are welcoming to these important insects and will help them thrive in the region.

Once completed later this year, the entire solar system will offset 100 percent of the electricity needs of the Carlisle facility. The 2.4 MW system will produce more than 3 million kilowatt hours annually, providing both economic and environmental benefits to GIANT and the Carlisle community at large. The environmental benefits of the system will be equal to reducing 4,557,643 lbs of CO<sub>2</sub>, or powering 476 homes, annually.

"We are proud to partner with GIANT to bring its renewable solar energy goals to life," said Steven Engelmann, Director, EnterSolar. "The rooftop and ground-mounted solar projects are evidence of GIANT'S on-going commitment to sustainability and the environment, and we applaud GIANT for leading by example across the Commonwealth and beyond."

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## **About GIANT Food Stores, LLC**

Founded in 1923 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, GIANT Food Stores is passionate about building strong families and healthy communities. With a customer-centric approach in all it does, GIANT serves millions of families across Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia through its nearly 180 neighborhood stores, 132 pharmacies, 99 fuel stations and its online grocery ordering and delivery services. GIANT Food Stores is proud to employ more than 30,000 associates who believe in giving back to their community and over the last five years, GIANT, with the help of its customers and vendor partners, has proudly donated more than \$100 million to local nonprofits. The GIANT Family of Brands includes GIANT, MARTIN'S Food Markets, GIANT Heirloom Market, and GIANT DIRECT, Powered by Peapod. GIANT Food Stores is a company of Ahold Delhaize USA. For more information visit the GIANT or MARTIN'S websites.

#### **About EnterSolar**

EnterSolar is a leading national developer of solar photovoltaic solutions to the commercial marketplace. The Company works with corporate enterprises to deliver solar energy projects with compelling, long-term ROI. Expert in the dynamic legislative environment, EnterSolar provides clients with real-time guidance to leverage tax credits and other financial incentives at federal, state and utility levels. EnterSolar's clients include multi-national retailers, REITS, global manufacturers and distributors. EnterSolar is headquartered in New York City with offices throughout the U.S. Solar Power World ranked EnterSolar the leading (#1) solar developer in New York State and in the top 10 nationally. EnterSolar is a strategic partner of EDF Renewables, a subsidiary of EDF Energies Nouvelles, the dedicated renewable energy affiliate of the French utility, EDF Group. For more information, visit EnterSolar at www.entersolar.com.

## **About Retail Business Services**

Retail Business Services, LLC, is the services company of Ahold Delhaize USA, currently providing services to six East Coast grocery brands, including Food Lion, Giant Food, GIANT/MARTIN'S, Hannaford and Stop & Shop, as well as the country's largest online grocery retailer, Peapod. Retail Business Services leverages the scale of the local brands to drive synergies and provides industry-leading expertise, insights and analytics to local brands to support their strategies with services including Information Technology, Merchandising & Marketing Services, Private Brand Products, Pharmacy Services, Sourcing, Not for Resale, Store Services, Financial Services, Legal Services, Communications, Supply Chain and People Systems and Services. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.retailbusinessservices.com">www.retailbusinessservices.com</a>.

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