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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Josh Clearman, Program Manager, 293-1549 ext. 54357

Date: August 18, 2011

### **Key West High Solar Array Installation Ceremony**

**KEY WEST, FL** - A 10kW solar array has been installed behind Key West High in the “back yard”. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Dignitaries from Tallahassee and the U.S. Department of Energy will attend, and the public is welcome to join our celebration.

The solar array, including installation, was paid for by ARRA stimulus money.

In an emergency situation such as a hurricane, power will be available for charging cell phones, providing light, powering computers, emergency medical equipment such as dialysis machines, and fans for an indefinite period of time. The sun will charge a battery bank, and when the batteries are fully charged, the power produced from the array will help power the school.

With the installation of the solar array, students are able to see all renewable technology that is currently available in action. Key West High School students have hands on opportunities with solar, wind and biodiesel technology. Josh Clearman said, “This solar array is a bold step towards further renewable energy in the Monroe County School District, and part of a comprehensive, aggressive strategy to reduce energy costs.”

This array has required considerable effort on the part of the Monroe County School District, including maintenance, information technology, safe schools, and administration at the school and district level.

(See photo next page)

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