New solar company plans 75 jobs in Oklahoma City

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Workers for EightTwenty install solar panels on the new farmers market operated by Restore OKC in Oklahoma City. (Courtesy photo)

OKLAHOMA CITY – EightTwenty, a new energy services company, announced plans on Monday to establish a headquarters in northeast Oklahoma City and to create 75 jobs over the next two years.

The fledgling company already has formed a team of 35 employees. Plans are to deliver on commercial, residential and new development solar and electrical contracting projects. The company also offers battery storage and generator solutions to maximize solar panel systems and electric vehicle charging station performance.

In a release, EightTwenty said it has installed more than 250 kilowatts of residential and commercial solar production capacity so far in 2021. Solar and electrical contract work has been undertaken in the growing Wheeler District. Commercial projects in and around Oklahoma City also have included battery installation and generator system backup to support the EV charging sector.

The company was established by local business leaders with a goal to deliver products and services that empower Oklahomans, businesses and communities to harness solar energy, the release said.

"EightTwenty exists to ensure our greatest resource, the sun, is maximized to deliver energy independence and sustainable solutions for all communities," company founder and CEO Tony Capucille said.

In conjunction with the firm's official launch, EightTwenty announced it recently completed its first "Give Solar" project with RestoreOKC. It installed solar panels on the nonprofit's new farmers market, which should significantly reduce – or at times even eliminate – a major operational expense. It's estimated that a 15-panel system installed on the farmers market will offset its annual energy usage by approximately 7,000 kilowatt-hours.

"RestoreOKC has been a perfect alignment for our first Give Solar project as this nonprofit seeks to deliver restorative justice in an area where we are also planning to establish our first zero-energy headquarters," company founder and President Kent Cissell said. "EightTwenty's solar solution will allow Restore's farmers market to continue delivering nutritious fresh produce while eliminating a significant utility expense for decades to come."

In fact, for every Oklahoma residential or commercial solar project undertaken, EightTwenty said it plans to contribute a portion of proceeds to Give Solar projects, allowing nonprofits to cut or eliminate energy costs.

"EightTwenty is the first of its kind in Oklahoma delivering renewable energy solutions, from solar panel installation and support to electrical services that allow infrastructure to be future-ready with EV charging stations and battery storage," Capucille said. "We are proud of the company we keep at EightTwenty with an incredibly talented team of energy consultants, designers, electricians and more that are committed to delivering the highest quality of energy services in Oklahoma and beyond."

According to the release, the company is planning to expand regionally by early 2022.

Count Restore OKC Executive Director Caylee Dodson among fans.

"Our team at RestoreOKC works hard to ensure that every dollar entrusted to us is maximized to benefit our community," she said. "Solar is an incredible example of how we are able to do this by reducing the recurring expenses to run our 5-acre property and to keep our mission and dollars focused toward seeing restorative justice in our community. We look forward to leveraging the incredible gift of solar that EightTwenty and its customers provided and watching how it helps serve RestoreOKC and our neighbors as we work together for sustainable change."