

LOCKHART POWER COMPANY CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL

Friday, February 17



A hundred years ago, in February of 1912, Lockhart Power Company was incorporated by the State of South Carolina. Located in Lockhart, the hydroelectric company was formed to provide electrical services to the surrounding mill villages. Today, many of the mills are gone but Lockhart Power is still going stronger than ever serving residential, commercial, industrial, and resale classes of customers in its designated service area. This service area spans portions of five (5) counties: Cherokee, Chester, Spartanburg, Union and York. Lockhart is one of the very few public utilities in the United States with 99% of its generated energy coming from renewable resources. "We are proud to be celebrating our 100 years of service with the communities we serve and with the State of South Carolina", said Bryan Stone, Chief Operating Officer of Lockhart Power. "The year-long celebration that officially kicked off this week will honor the past and renew our resolve to create an even brighter future", added Stone. The year-long celebration will emphasize sustainability for the company and the communities it serves. Among the many centennial celebration initiatives, Lockhart Power will plant 100 Noble trees in its service area. Also announced are various partnerships with the communities that will improve the beauty of the local landscapes, enhance economic development,

and support charitable causes. Lockhart Power will also celebrate its centennial as part of local and statewide community festivals and other community events that Lockhart will support. WBCU News was at the kick-off reception Thursday afternoon and we spoke with Richard Webal, President of Pacolet Milliken Enterprises, Lockhart Power's parent company, and these were his comments. Webal said he was very proud to be honoring Lockhart Power's 100th anniversary. He said that he is equally proud that, though it is one of the smallest utilities in the US, they may also be the only one that has 100% renewable energy that they make. He said Pacolet Milliken Enterprises and Lockhart Power's mission is their passion and commitment to community and sustainability. They define sustainability in terms of recreation along the Pacolet River, in terms of economic development and bringing jobs in, and in terms of community and preserving a culture and way of life in difficult economic times. He said they want to be part of a very bright and positive future with us.

-