



NEWS RELEASE – December 15, 2016

Veridian launches microgrid project with ribbon cutting ceremony

Ajax, ON – A ribbon cutting ceremony was held today at Veridian’s corporate headquarters in Ajax to officially launch the utility’s multi-phased microgrid pilot project. Veridian President and CEO Michael Angemeer was joined by representatives from the companies selected to help deploy and support the pilot project - Joshua Wong, President and CEO, Opus One Solutions (“Opus One”) and Leonard Allen, President and CEO, Solera Sustainable Energies Company Limited (“Solera”). Ajax-Pickering MPP Joe Dickson was also on hand to congratulate Veridian and its partners.

Canada’s first utility installation of Tesla Powerwalls were unveiled at Veridian’s headquarters in June for phase one on the pilot project. The recent addition of a solar powered carport canopy equipped with Multiple Level 2 Electric Vehicle Chargers and a Level 3 Fast Charger marked the completion of phase 2. The final phase will see the deployment of residential microgrids involving homebuilders – managed and operated by Veridian’s 24/7 System Control Centre and controlled by Opus One’s GridOS® Microgrid Energy Management System. The pilot project supports widespread deployment of renewable generation, microgrids and electric vehicle technology that will exhibit how the growing deployment of such systems will benefit the environment through reduced air pollution and GHG emissions.

“Our ultimate goal is to demonstrate and evaluate the benefits of microgrids, battery storage, renewable energy and electric vehicles for our residential customers, and make progress towards net-zero homes and eventually virtual power plants – providing direct benefits and expanded services to our customers,” said Angemeer. “It’s important to test out flexible systems in the home or business and connections to our System Control Centre from a technical and customer interface perspective to allow the optimal sharing of benefits between the customer and the utility.”

“We are pleased to support Veridian’s objective of enabling more of their customers to take advantage of green energy solutions, by helping them better manage multiple microgrids in their network using GridOS®, our real-time intelligent energy networking platform,” commented Joshua Wong, President and CEO of Opus One.

“This project exhibits an important milestone in the move towards a diversified and optimized electricity system, incorporating clean solar electricity and sustainable transportation,” said Leonard Allen, President and CEO of Solera. “We are delighted that our photovoltaic solar carport has been employed in this flagship project.”

Veridian will continue to implement innovative smart grid and microgrid technologies, sharing its learnings and best practices with the industry and its customers.

About Veridian Connections

Veridian Connections, serving more than 120,000 residential and business customers, is about to become the fifth largest municipally owned electric utility in Ontario after the merger of large utilities west of Toronto is completed. The City of Pickering, the Town of Ajax, the Municipality of Clarington and the City of Belleville jointly own Veridian Corporation, the parent company to Veridian Connections. The utility has a successful history of effective growth through two mergers and five acquisitions, and now serves nine communities east and north of Toronto more efficiently than any other large non-contiguous utility in Ontario. Veridian has a keen focus on reliability, customer communication and helping to lower customers’ electricity bills through the delivery of innovative conservation programs and reasonable rates. Veridian not only contributes to local communities through industry leading financial returns, but also helps build stronger communities through the support of youth, health, education, the arts, the environment and many charitable organizations. Industry leading employee programs, public safety and a focus on employee engagement has created an environment that has attracted seven consecutive Canada’s Greenest Employer awards and one Top GTA Employer award. Veridian has now diversified into renewable energy, and will be establishing other value added offerings for its customers.

About Opus One Solutions

Opus One Solutions is a software engineering and solutions company with the vision of a Connected Energy Internet. Through GridOS[®], its intelligent energy networking platform, Opus One optimizes complex power flows so that it can deliver real-time energy management to distribution utilities and other managers of distributed energy assets. GridOS is modular, scalable, and integrates seamlessly with existing data systems to unlock greater potential for distributed energy resources, including renewable generation, energy storage and responsive demand. GridOS also facilitates the management of microgrids – from homes to businesses to communities – for unparalleled grid resiliency and value to the electricity customer.

Solera Sustainable Energies Company Limited

Solera Sustainable Energies Company Limited is an award-winning solar energy development firm specializing in the planning, engineering, construction, finance and operational management of distributed renewable energy assets. Celebrating 25 years since its first solar project in Ontario, the company has amassed broad commercial and technical competence that has proven successful in delivering hundreds of projects tailored to meet the varying economic and ecological objectives of public and private investors and end users, both in Canada and abroad.

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For more information, contact:

Chris Mace
Corporate Communications Representative
Veridian Connections Inc.
905-427-9870, extension 2218
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