

## Educators Gather at Jefferson County High School

The Sun Power for Schools program was introduced in 2005 to educate students on the benefits of solar energy as part of a larger effort of Green Power EMC, the state's first renewable energy program formed by 37 of the state's EMC's including Jefferson Energy Cooperative in Wrens, Georgia.

Jefferson Energy, along with Jefferson County High School hosted a training session on November 1 that was designed for math and science teachers from other schools around the state that participate in the Sun Power program. EMC representatives discussed the importance of introducing students to the concepts of photovoltaic technology and green energy, and familiarized teachers with the systems and how data could be incorporated into various classroom projects.

Sun Power for Schools is a true partnership, with commitments of time and funding shared by the selected school and participating electric cooperative. The solar panel installations are an important component of the school's curriculum providing the students with hands-on examples of renewable energy generation. Additionally, the solar panels will become part of a mix of renewable energy sources provided by electric co-ops to help reduce pollution, preserve natural resources, and reduce the state's reliance on traditional energy sources.

William Irwin, Manager of Marketing with Jefferson Energy Cooperative says, "The Solar Panel project we have at Jefferson County High School is great. Not only do the students get a great learning tool, they get to contribute to the green power effort for Jefferson Energy and other EMC's around the state."

To date, Georgia's EMCs have installed solar panels at 14 different schools around the state.