

## Sun shines on Brockton energy plant

*By Mike Underwood, Enterprise staff writer*

BROCKTON — A city powerhouse is becoming a leading light in the world of solar power.

A fact-finding team from the United Kingdom government Wednesday visited the Brockton Brightfields solar power plant on East Union Street as part of a mission to find alternative energy blueprints for Britain.

"We are proud of what we have accomplished here. It gives the city a positive image and shows how innovative we are," said Mayor James E. Harrington, who welcomed the British delegation to the site.

The visit to Brockton was arranged through the British Consulate in Boston by United Kingdom Trade and Investment, a UK government agency which helps companies do business in Britain.

"We are here to get a feel for what is happening in the renewable energy industry," said Adam Brown of UKTI. "I think this could be quite easily used as a blueprint for us to take back to the UK. This plant looks very impressive, especially because it is in an urban area."

Brightfields Project Manager Lori Ribeiro said, "It is very exciting that other countries are looking at us. It makes me feel that the six years we invested and all we have accomplished is worthwhile.

The site boasts 1,395 solar panels and generates 535 megawatt hours of electricity a year, enough to power more than 70 homes.

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