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Brockton solar plant to receive award

By Mike Underwood, Enterprise staff writer

BROCKTON — The City of Champions is set to scoop an environmental award for its solar power field. The Brockton Brightfields solar power plant will be announced as the Brownfields Project of the Year at the Environmental Business Council (EBC) of New England awards. Mayor James E. Harrington will receive the award at a special ceremony at the Waltham Westin on June 7. The award is in recognition of redevelopment of the former gas plant on East Union Street into an environmentally friendly power plant. The site, which opened in October 2006, boasts 1,395 solar panels and generates 535 megawatt hours of electricity a year, enough to power more than 70 homes. EBC chiefs aim to promote the environmental and energy services and high-tech businesses throughout New England by supporting policies and practices for business and government. The award comes as Brockton Power LLC pushes for environmental permits to build a 350-megawatt, natural-gas fired power plant on Oak Hill Way. Mike Underwood can be reached at munderwood@enterpriseneeds.com.