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MEDIA RELEASE

Milwaukee Public Museum Dedicates Solar Panel Wall

October 29, 2014—MILWAUKEE—Milwaukee Public Museum President and CEO Dennis Kois dedicated MPM’s solar panel wall today with a special acknowledgment of the donors whose generous support made the project possible.

MPM’s six-story solar wall, which faces Wells Street, is one of the first of its kind and the only building-mounted solar panel array in the Midwest. The wall was completed in early October, and is expected to generate 77,533 kilowatt hours of electricity per year, enough to power nearly five hundred 60-watt light bulbs for eight hours a day for an entire year.

“As a leading educational institution in Wisconsin, MPM is leading the way on energy sustainability and demonstrating the value of making smart green energy choices,” said Kois. “While we’re proud to unveil the largest solar array on a building in the Midwest, we’re hopeful MPM will be joined by other buildings, and other organizations, soon.”

County Executive Chris Abele, a longtime supporter of local environmental and sustainability causes, was instrumental in making MPM’s solar project possible through a major personal gift. We Energies supported this project with a gift in support of Museum green-energy education efforts, and Milwaukee Shines offered support through the funding of a public kiosk that informs Museum visitors about the solar array and tracks energy generation in real-time.

About the Milwaukee Public Museum

The Milwaukee Public Museum is a natural and human history museum located in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The museum was chartered in 1882 and opened to the public in 1884. MPM has three floors of exhibits that encompass life-size dioramas, walk-through villages, world cultures, dinosaurs, a rain forest and a live butterfly garden, as well as the Daniel M. Soref National Geographic Theater and Planetarium. The museum houses more than 4.5 million objects and hosts nearly half a million visitors each year.

The MPM is operated by Milwaukee Public Museum, Inc., a private, non-profit company, and its facilities and collections are held in trust and supported by Milwaukee County for the benefit of the public.

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