

Another solar company chooses Portland

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Solaicx, which manufactures the ingots and wafers used to make solar panels, has leased a 136,000-square-foot facility in the Port of Portland's Rivergate Industrial District, the company announced Tuesday.

The Santa Clara, Calif.-based company will employ roughly 100 at the facility by the end of the year. The plant will have a run-rate of 48 megawatts, but could eventually produce 142 megawatts of solar ingots and wafers annually.

The announcement is yet another signal Oregon is "on track to become the national leader in renewable energy," Gov. Ted Kulongoski said in a statement.

The German company Solarworld AG announced in March it will spend nearly \$400 million to build what could be the nation's largest solar manufacturing facility in Hillsboro. GroSolar, a White River Junction, Vt.-based company, would like to build utility-scale solar plants in Eastern Oregon.