

Friday, July 16, 2010

## \$100M solar film plant eyes metro Atlanta

Atlanta Business Chronicle - by [Urvaksh Karkaria](#) Staff Writer

A Korean manufacturer is considering metro Atlanta for a roughly \$100 million plant that would produce a key component used in solar panels.

SKC Inc., part of Seoul-based [SKC Co. Ltd.](#), plans to construct a photovoltaic films production plant where it will employ about 120.

SKC's U.S. headquarters and polyester films production

campus in Covington is one of several sites being considered. The company declined to disclose the locations of the other sites, or comment on whether tax incentives are being sought from Georgia.

As per policy, a Georgia economic development spokeswoman declined comment.

SKC's proposed 50,000-square-foot plant will manufacture a specialized film called ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA). The plant will supply solar panel makers, primarily in the United States.

Placed between the solar cells and the solar panel glass, EVA film insulates and weatherproofs the solar cells and keeps electric current from going astray, said Mark Burger, principal at [Kestrel Development Co.](#), an Oak Park, Ill.-based renewable energy consulting firm.



Byron E. Small

Covington: SKC's U.S. headquarters and polyester films production campus east of Atlanta is one of several sites being considered.

[View Larger](#)

The expansion into the photovoltaic market is a natural transition, based on SKC's experience in polyester films, the company said. SKC's EVA plant would help "vertically integrate" Georgia's fast-growing solar industry supply chain, said Walter Brown, chair of the [Georgia Solar Energy Association](#) and senior vice president at [Green Street Properties](#).

[editorial]



[The Reynolds Group Inc.] [www.thereynoldsgroupinc.com]