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## **Residential PACE Now Available in St. Lucie County**

St. Lucie County, FL, April 5, 2017 –

The St. Lucie Board of County Commissioners recently approved adding residential properties to the local Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, and the new program is now up and running and the first two residential PACE projects have been approved.

Fort Pierce resident, Lynn O'Brien, was the first St. Lucie County resident to take advantage of the new Residential PACE program, which she is using to hire a local company to install new windows throughout her home. Ms. O'Brien said, “I am very pleased with the PACE program and look forward to my new impact windows.” She added, “The improvements will help safeguard my home, increase equity in my property, and lower my energy bills.”

Ms. O'Brien selected Kamrell Windows and Doors from Stuart to complete the work, and company president Heidi Tyrrell, said, “We are very happy to be helping Ms. O'Brien with her new windows and we are excited about St. Lucie County's new PACE program.” She added, “PACE financing can help many property owners secure financing for much-needed improvements to their homes and businesses.”

PACE financing is a land-secured assessment that property owners can voluntarily undertake in order to secure 100% upfront financing for high-efficiency A/C systems, solar water heaters, solar PV panels, roofs, doors, windows, hurricane shutters, and more. Financing is available to private and non-profit landowners in St. Lucie County, who have paid their taxes on time over the last 3 years and have equity in the subject property. PACE is collateralized by the equity in the property, rather than a credit check, and financing is available for 5, 10, 15, and 20 year terms. Property-owners repay the annual assessments as a part of their property tax bills, and the assessments stay with the land rather than the owner.

St. Lucie County was one of the first local governments in Florida to develop their own local PACE program in partnership with the non-profit Solar and Energy Loan Fund (SELF). Property owners interested in learning more about St. Lucie County's PACE program can contact SELF at (772) 468-1818 or visit [www.solarenergyloanfund.org](http://www.solarenergyloanfund.org).