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MEDIA ADVISORY

2,300-mile Solar Car Race Coming to Joplin, Mo.

What: The American Solar Challenge (ASC), a 2,300-mile solar car race from Chicago to the Los Angeles area along historic Route 66, July 13-23. The American Solar Challenge is an educational event in which college teams and clubs compete to build and race solar-powered cars from the U.S. and Canada across the country. Twenty solar-powered cars are participating in the race. The car with the fastest cumulative time will win the Challenge, which is the longest solar car race in the world.

When: Solar cars are expected to pass through a checkpoint in Joplin on **July 15**. The fastest cars could reach the checkpoint as early as noon. Cars are required to stop for 30 minutes. Checkpoints are normally open from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Please call contacts above for specific times that may differ.

Where: The Joplin checkpoint is at **Ewert Park, 3010 W. First St.**

How: Media are encouraged to cover the race at the checkpoint, where racecar drivers and other team members will be available for interviews. Media team representatives and race officials also will be at the checkpoint. Daily race results, photos and other information are posted at www.americansolarchallenge.org.

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The race is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), BP Solar and EDS

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