

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
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**CITY OF VALLEJO, BP SOLAR TO HOLD RIBBON-CUTTING EVENT FOR  
CITY'S NEWEST SOLAR FACILITY AT COLUMBUS PARKWAY**

VALLEJO – The City of Vallejo and BP Solar will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the City's latest solar energy project, a solar power plant located on Columbus Parkway near Fire Station 7.

The ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. Thursday, August 21, 2003 at Vallejo Fire Station 7, located adjacent to the solar facility.

"We're thrilled to be able to dedicate yet another solar panel project in the City of Vallejo," said Mayor Tony Intintoli. "Partnering with BP Solar has been a positive experience that has helped not only Vallejo, but Solano County as well."

The solar array covers approximately 1.3 acres and consists of a 214kW ac-ptc, 1,700 solar panel system. The system will be used to provide electricity to a City of Vallejo water pumping station located next to the facility and is expected to meet from 60 to 80 percent of the pump station's energy requirements. This will save the City thousands of dollars a year in electricity payments. Estimated savings in the first year of operation alone are \$67,000.

The CO2 avoided from just this installation is 570,000 pounds per year; this will have the same effect on CO2 as planting approximately 70 acres of trees. It is also avoiding the production of hundreds of pounds of smog, acid rain and air pollution gases, SO4 and Nox.

Half of the project's \$1.68 million costs are covered by a grant from PG&E as part of the self-generation program that is available to all businesses and institutions in PG&E territory. The remaining costs are covered by the issuance of Certificates of Participation by the City of Vallejo. The California Energy Commission offers a similar rebate program to homeowners who install solar systems smaller than 30 kW in size.

"This important project yet again shows that solar energy makes great economic sense for California's cities," says Mac Moore, BP Solar's Director of Building Markets, "the City of Vallejo is taking a leadership role by demonstrating that solar can be used to reduce electricity bills for municipal water pumping."

In addition to designing and installing the solar power plant, BP will operate and maintain the facility on behalf of the City.

This is the third solar project the City has dedicated in the last year. Roofs of JFK Library and City Hall each have solar systems providing electricity to the facilities. And solar panels installed at the City's Corporation Yard are providing almost the entire electricity needs of the police department.

(More)

“We’re committed to our renewable energy projects,” said City Manager David Martinez. “This has a positive impact in our community and the entire Bay Area in terms of air quality. We’re happy to be a part of the solution.”

Vallejo was named a Clean Air Champion 2002 by the Bay Area Air Quality Management district and has been nominated for an EPA/DOE 2003 Green Leadership Award.

BP Solar is one of the world’s largest solar companies with global market share of nearly 20 percent. BP solar has manufacturing facilities in the US, Spain, India, and Australia. Its headquarters are located in Linthicum, Maryland. To learn more about BP Solar, visit us at [www.bpsolar.com](http://www.bpsolar.com).

**WHAT:** Dedication of solar panel system at Columbus Parkway

**WHEN:** 10 a.m. Thursday, August 21, 2003

**WHERE:** Fire Station 7, Columbus Parkway, Vallejo

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