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VALLEJO SOLAR PANELS ALREADY GENERATING SAVINGS

VALLEJO – Solar panels installed at the City of Vallejo's Corporation Yard, behind the Vallejo Police Station, have saved the City over \$4,600 in energy costs in two months.

According to PG&E bills from November and December, the City has saved \$4,607.92. The November and December bills are the first full monthly bills the City has received since the panels were installed. The City unveiled the 31-kilowatt solar panel array at the Corporation Yard in mid-August.

"We expected to generate some savings, but this is fantastic," said City Manager David Martinez. "I'm sure we can expect the same type of savings when the solar panels on the roof of City Hall and the Library are put into service."

From November 6, 2002 to December 7, 2002 the police department facilities used 33,120-kilowatt hours of electricity. The normal bill for that usage would be \$2,410.80, but during that period Vallejo was charged \$197.23, meaning the City's solar panel array generated almost as much electricity as was used.

In the billing period from December 7, 2002 to January 8, 2002, police department facilities used 35,360-kilowatt hours of electricity. While the City's bill should have been \$2,573.85, it was only \$179.50.

Some other interesting statistics from the first two full months of billing:

- On October 10, December 5 and January 1 the solar panels generated more electricity than was used in the building.
- Part of the bill represents service charges of \$75.00 to \$78.00 per month. Actual usage was therefore slightly over \$100.00 each month.
- At the current rate of savings, the system will pay for itself in six years rather than the 10 years reported to the City Council. Savings for this fiscal year will be \$20,700 and next year they should be \$27,000.