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### **CITY RACKING UP SOLAR SAVINGS SINCE SYSTEMS INSTALLATIONS**

VALLEJO – The City of Vallejo has saved over \$108,000 in energy costs since installing solar panels at the Vallejo Corporation Yard, City Hall and the John F. Kennedy Library.

In March 2002 the City undertook the most aggressive solar electric generation program of any city in the United States. Three photovoltaic systems were installed atop city-owned facilities to supplement electrical usage. A 31kw system at the Corporation Yard was installed by Sun Power Systems, while a 108 kw system at Vallejo City Hall and a 230 kw system at JFK Library were installed by PowerLight Corporation.

“This report shows our commitment to self-generated electricity works and saves the City valuable dollars,” said City Manager David Martinez. “In these difficult fiscal times every dollar counts.”

The Corporation Yard system has saved approximately \$22,218 since December 2002. Energy costs generated without solar power would have been \$85,646. With solar panels the City’s energy costs at the Corporation Yard were only \$63,427.

At Vallejo City Hall, panels began generating electricity in April 2003. Since then energy costs have been approximately \$6,607. With solar panels those same costs would have been \$46,575 – a savings of almost \$40,000.

The biggest savings were generated at John F. Kennedy Library, where energy costs pre-solar panels would have been \$107,704. With the panels actual energy costs were \$61,232 – or a savings of over \$46,000.

(More)

“Our commitment to clean energy sources is paying off,” said City Manager David R. Martinez. “These numbers prove it. The impact on our budget is something Vallejoans can enjoy, while the impact on our environment is something that benefits everyone in the region.”

At current estimates, all three projects will be paid off in seven years. The cost of the Corporation Yard project was \$292,945, with the City’s share at \$154,249. The systems at City Hall and JFK Library – which, during the day, generate enough energy to power over 330 homes – cost \$2.76 million. The City’s share of those costs was \$1,593,000. The balance came from energy grants.

Vallejo’s solar projects at City Hall and JFK Library are featured in the PowerLight Corporation’s 2004 Calendar. The City is featured in the month of August.