



Media Advisory

For Immediate Release
July 3, 2007

Contact: Brad Sherwood
707.521.6204

1.5 Megawatts of Solar Power to be Dedicated at Agency Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Sonoma, CA– The Sonoma County Water Agency (Agency) on July 6 will dedicate two solar electric power systems totaling more than 1.5 megawatts. The systems will help save the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District and the Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup Sanitation Zone \$250,000 in utility costs annually, and assist the Agency in achieving goals under its Sustainability Initiative.

SunPower installed a 1.04-megawatt solar power system at the Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District facility. With 5,208 ground-mounted solar panels covering nearly five acres, the system will meet at least a third of the treatment plant's power needs. The installation utilizes the SunPower Tracker system, which enables the solar panels to automatically follow the path of the sun throughout the day, increasing energy capture by up to 25 percent over fixed systems.

A 593-kilowatt solar power system was installed by SPG Solar for the Agency at the Airport/Larkfield/Wikiup Sanitation Zone treatment plant. The system utilizes 3,312 panels and is ground-mounted on the face of the reclamation pond that serves the treatment plant.

The total cost of the solar power installations was approximately \$12 million. That cost was offset by rebates totaling \$4.5 million from PG&E, under the California's Public Utility Commission's Self-Generated Incentive Program.

Who: The Sonoma County Water Agency, Supervisor Valerie Brown, State Senator Patricia Wiggins, and other local elected officials.

What: Solar Projects Dedication

When: Friday, July 6, 2007 at 11a.m.

Location: Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District – 22675 8th Street East, Sonoma

RSVP: Contact Brad Sherwood at 707.521.6204 or Sherwood@scwa.ca.gov.

###

Sonoma County Water Agency provides water supply, flood protection and sanitation services for portions of Sonoma and Marin counties. Visit us on the Web at www.sonomacountywater.org.