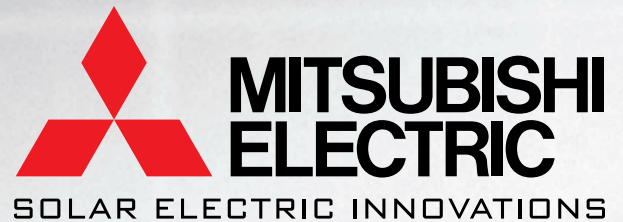


CASE STUDY



Poway Unified School District Goes Solar

Poway School Unified School District, located in San Diego County in California, is the third largest school district in the county with 37 schools and 33,000 students ranging from grades K-12. As part of the Poway Unified School District's ongoing effort to reduce its impact on the environment, the district has installed solar panels on four of its schools totaling 694 kW DC. Poway High School, Westview High School, Oak Valley Middle School and Chaparral Elementary School all received solar arrays on their rooftops which sets a real-world example for their students and community by helping to lower energy costs while saving the district money it can use to offer students more educational resources.

The solar arrays are comprised of 3,855 Mitsubishi Electric photovoltaic modules. Mitsubishi Electric's modules are well known for using only lead-free solder, having a tight power tolerance, and providing exceptional performance and reliability. The solar arrays were designed and installed by REC Solar, Inc. an industry-leading solar power provider specializing in grid-tied residential and commercial installations. The solar system is owned by a third party through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

A PPA is a long-term agreement between a third party financing partner and a host customer to provide solar electricity at guaranteed long term rates. With a PPA, the solar installation company and its financing partners provide the design, financing, maintenance and support for all elements of the solar electricity system, including management of rebates and other government financial incentives.

In a cash-strapped economy, Poway school officials knew a huge capital outlay was out of the question, so they entered a Power Purchase Agreement that frees them from maintenance responsibilities while allowing them to purchase the more than 1,000,000 kilowatt hours of solar power generated annually at a low, fixed cost over 20 years. The school district expects to save \$20,000 in electricity costs the first year alone. After the 20-year PPA agreement expires, the district can continue purchasing electricity from the company or acquire ownership of the arrays. The innovative project, which involved installations on 20 district buildings at four schools and was completed in six months, has earned a nomination for the 2008 San Diego Excellence in Energy Awards.



Case Study

POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

CASE STUDY

POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (cont.)

Installing the solar system provides numerous economic and environmental benefits to the district. The PPA agreement provides a hedge against rising electric rates and keeps the school from having to make any upfront investment or perform any ongoing maintenance for the system. The solar project is expected to save the district more than \$1 million in energy costs over the next 20 years. In addition, the presence of solar panels on 20 buildings is an excellent tool for teaching students and community members about the value of clean renewable energy in a real-world setting. Through a Web-based portal, teachers and students will be able to see the real-time electrical output from the solar technology and learn how the systems operate.

The solar system is expected to produce more than a million kWh of electricity a year which would offset approximately 10,740 tons of CO₂ from entering the environment over the 20-year life of the system. This is equivalent to driving nearly 30 million miles.*

* Based on estimates from www.climatecare.org.

FOR MORE INFO:

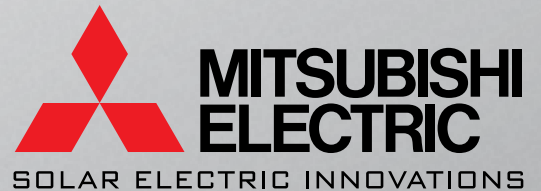
www.mitsubishielectricsolar.com
www.powayusd.com
www.recsolar.com



*"The combination of minimizing our environmental impact while reducing energy costs makes the project a win for the district, as well as the San Diego community."
- Doug Mann, executive director of facilities for Poway Unified School District*

PROJECT DETAILS:

System Size: 694 kW DC
Location: San Diego County, Calif.
Solar Panels: 3,855 Mitsubishi Electric
180Wp modules
Inverters: Various SatCon inverters
Mounting System: SolarRak™
System Integrator: REC Solar, Inc.
Estimated Annual kWh: 1,000,000 kWh



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