

**SB1 Solar Program Status Report**

**Utility Name:** City of Palo Alto Utilities

**Program Reporting Period:**

From Program Inception: January 1, 2007

Through: March 31, 2008

**1. Program Activities**

a) Summary of Program Activities:

- Developed new program guidebook, application, brochure, and web content
- Hosted two consumer workshops, and provided daily phone and email support
- Sponsored the 2007 Palo Alto Solar homes tour
- Hosted a workshop for Bay Area building inspectors on Installing Code-Compliant PV Systems (co-hosted with Silicon Valley Power)
- Facilitated a meeting with local solar installers and the Palo Alto Building Dept. to address permit and inspection procedure issues
- Collaborated with the cities of Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Santa Clara to apply for a Federal Solar Cities grant to address regional barriers to cost-effective solar installations (grant application was not selected)

b) Future Opportunities and Challenges:

- CPAU worked with the Palo Alto Building Dept. to establish reasonable permit fees for both residential and commercial projects. CPAU also has offered to reimburse the Building department for consultant assistance to expedite PV plan review, as the high workload has slowed down the approval time.
- The Building Dept. has tightened the permit submittal and inspection for PV installations, creating a barrier for small solar companies to work in Palo Alto. CPAU is continuing to work with the Building department to establish more solar-friendly permit and inspection procedures.
- CPAU will sponsor a Green Homes tour for September 2008 to promote solar along with other green building techniques.
- The high demand for solar rebates has driven down the rebate levels faster than expected. This may cause a slow-down in installations until the installed costs begin to drop.

**2. Program Performance**

# Applicants	Total Systems Installed	Total kW Installed	Estimated Generation (kWh)
137	92	250	411,683
Available Funding <sup>1</sup>	Total Expenditures <sup>2</sup>	Incentives Awarded <sup>3</sup>	Incentives Paid
\$13M	\$ 781,148	\$2,344,461	\$726,592

<sup>1</sup> Total solar program funding available for the life of the program as approved by the local governing board.

<sup>2</sup> Includes all program expenditures, including administration and marketing.

<sup>3</sup> Incentives awarded are for approved applications that have not yet been paid

**3. Additional Information** (as available)

a) Known customer application issues/applications not approved

Most applications take a few weeks to be approved due to incomplete information. Only one project was cancelled during this reporting cycle.

b) Non PV solar systems installed

None

c) Facility end use information

Host Customer Type	No. of Installations	kW_AC
Residential	92	250
Below Mkt. Residential	0	0
Commercial	0	0
Non-Profit	0	0
Government	0	0
Industrial	0	0
Mixed Use	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>250</b>
Building Type	No. of Installations	kW_AC
New Construction	45	92
Retrofit	47	158
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>250</b>

d) Incentive and funding disaggregation (e.g., by incentive type, by end use, etc.)

Application Count	Rebate Type		
	Total	kW-based	Performance-Based-Incentive
Number Received	137	136	1
Number Approved	128	128	0
Number Rejected	1	1	0
Number Pending Approval	8	7	1
Number Installed	92	92	0

**4. Appendix**

*Additional program information, including program guidelines, incentive tables, program rules, etc.*

1. PV Partners Program guidebook:

<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civica/filebank/blobload.asp?BlobID=8066>