



Salt Lake County Distributes Request For Proposals to Double the Amount of Solar Power in Utah
Installation spearheading the County's renewable energy goals

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SALT LAKE CITY, UT – Salt Lake County is on the forefront of solar development in Utah with the release of the County's request for proposal (RFP) for the installation of up to 1.6 Megawatts (1,600 kilowatts) of solar power on County facilities. The County's project will singlehandedly double the amount of installed solar electricity in Utah and will help put Utah on the solar industry map.

"The County is thrilled to be moving forward with this unprecedented solar installation which saves money on our building's energy costs and serves as a shining example of the benefits of solar energy" said Kimi Barnett, Salt Lake County's Environmental Coordinator.

The solar installations include three major county facilities – The Calvin L. Rampton-Salt Place Convention Center, Environmental Health Building and the Riverton Senior Center. The County plans to utilize a third-party financing arrangement (recently made available in Utah with a bill passed in the 2010 legislative session) along with public and private capital and federal incentives. The County is working to coordinate these financial resources to make them easily accessible to potential bidders.

"Utah Clean Energy applauds the County's leadership on Utah's largest and most prominent solar project," says Sara Baldwin, Senior Policy & Regulatory Associate with Utah Clean Energy. "By taking advantage of favorable state and federal policies and the economic stimulus package, this solar project will help demonstrate that innovative financing can work to make solar a cost-effective investment today."

The RFP process includes two stages: stage I proposals are due June 9 and from that group, several will be selected to submit a follow up proposal for stage II by July 16, 2010. A final selection will be announced in August. Bidders will be scored based on criteria including qualifications, experience with similar projects, technologies, and financing structures, as well as specific project system size, pricing, and design. The County encourages finalists to propose various solar PV technologies deemed most appropriate and beneficial for this project.

Salt Lake County held a pre-bid meeting on May 21, 2010 for companies planning on submitting a proposal for the project. The meeting included representatives from Zions Bank Corporation and Salt Lake County providing presentations on the project's financing along with answering questions from those companies that intend on submitting a bid.

This project is just the first step to achieving Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon's goal to install 10 MW of solar power on as many county-owned facilities as possible. "This is a first important step towards a larger goal of utilizing renewable energy on Salt Lake County facilities," says Mayor Peter Corroon. "We hope to build some momentum and encourage others in our community to investigate the possibilities of solar in their homes and businesses." Salt Lake County is also an official partner on the U.S. Dept of Energy Solar America Cities Initiative, Solar Salt Lake Project, whose goal is to develop a develop a fully-scoped city and county-level implementation plan to facilitate at least 10 megawatts (or an additional 10,000 solar PV systems) of new solar photovoltaic (PV) installations in the government, commercial, industrial, and residential sectors by 2015.

To receive the County's RFP and/or get more information, individuals should register with BidSync by visiting www.bidsync.com.

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About Utah Clean Energy

Utah Clean Energy is a non-profit, non-partisan public interest organization partnering to build the new clean energy economy through policy, regulatory, and educational initiatives. Utah Clean Energy advances renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean energy technologies in Utah and the West.

About the Solar Salt Lake Project

The Solar Salt Lake Project is led by a partnership among Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah Clean Energy, and other stakeholders (see below) whose goal is to significantly drive the use of solar energy throughout Salt Lake Valley over the next eight years and beyond. The Solar Salt Lake Project will develop a fully-scoped city and county-level implementation plan to facilitate at least 10 megawatts (or an additional 10,000 solar PV systems) of new solar photovoltaic (PV) installations in the government, commercial, industrial, and residential sectors by 2015.