Fort Mojave Solar Project
RESERVATION FARM LAND

2000 Acres Reserved for Solar Development
DOE funded renewable energy Feasibility Study found wind resource on Fort Mojave reservation marginal, but solar resource significant

Project was to be developed on 640 acres of Fort Mojave land in Arizona

Other parties included Tax and Equity financing entities, and solar developers (NEXT Light)

Group bid the project into the 2007 AZ and CA Utility PPA Request for Offers

Project was not shortlisted by any of the AZ or CA utility companies.

Fort Mojave made more land available in CA and partnered with NextLight to bid a larger project from its CA lands in the next round of CA utility RFO’s

Project was shortlisted by one CA utility in 2009 but negotiations did not lead to PPA

NextLight was purchased by First Solar

First Solar and Fort Mojave continue to work together to secure a PPA for the project
• 310 MW project to be located on Fort Mojave Indian Reservation in California
• Highest solar resource area in the country
• Interconnect to former coal-fired Mojave Generation
• Station Environmentally preferred site; disturbed agricultural land
• Option and Lease submitted to BIA
• Draft Large Generator Interconnection Agreement received
• Transmission route alternatives identified
• Site and route surveys conducted by URS Corporation
TRIBAL LEADERSHIP

• Tribal Council
  Business
  Terms and Evaluation
  Environmental
  Community
  Responsibility

• Relationship Criteria
  Standards “How does the Tribe want to be treated”
  Heavily involved / Limited Resources
  Many companies have never dealt with Tribes “Sensitivity”

• Understand the Industry
  Terminology
  Timeframe
  Membership Hope
**PROCESS**

1. Determine whether a project is feasible
   a) Feasibility Studies

2. Due Diligence Choosing Partner
   a) Experience with developing project
   b) Financially stable
   c) Experience winning PPA’s
   d) Knowledge of transmission and interconnection

3. Developed Agreements
   a) Cooperation agreement established with developer to identify ideal site based on land requirement and transmission route
   b) Developed Term Sheet to negotiate the major terms of a lease agreement once site was identified
   c) Negotiated Option and Lease Agreement based on Term Sheet

4. Gain Community Support
   a) Community meetings
TRUE PARTNERSHIP

Meetings
Congressional Meetings
• Senators
• Congressmen
• Department of Interior
• Bureau of Indian Affairs
• Department of Energy
• California Public Utilities Commission
CALIFORNIA

Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan
   Establishing the Map
   BLM/DOI
   Economic Development for your Tribe
   Protecting Ancestral and Cultural Lands
   Meeting January 17, 2011

ARIZONA

Tribal Leaders Roundtable with the Governor
   Governor Brewer – Support for Renewable Energy

OPINION

Renewable Energy Standard
   Reservation Development
   Limited Environmental Concerns