TRIBAL SOLAR ENERGY PARTNERSHIPS



Fort Mojave Solar Project







RESERVATION FARM LAND



HISTORY

- 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

PROJECT SUMMARY

- 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
- StationEnvironmentally 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



STATE UPDATE

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

QUESTIONS

