OVERVIEW
The Solar Star projects are two co-located solar installations in Kern and Los Angeles counties in California. Construction on the 586-megawatt projects began in early 2013 and was completed in 2015.

The Solar Star projects are situated on approximately 3,200 acres of privately owned, previously disturbed land near Rosamond, Calif. The Solar Star projects consist of approximately 1,720,000 panels and deliver enough electricity to power the equivalent of approximately 255,000 homes. Together, the projects form the largest completed solar photovoltaic power project in the world.

SunPower Corporation designed and constructed the projects, which uses SunPower® Oasis® Power Plant technology. The Oasis technology positions the panels to track the sun during the day, increasing energy capture by up to 25 percent. BHE Renewables owns the projects and sells the electricity to Southern California Edison under a long-term power purchase agreement.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS
• High-efficiency solar panels and SunPower Oasis Power Plant technology reduce land use
• Avoidance of more than 560,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions per year – the equivalent of removing over 2 million cars from highways over 20 years
• Generation of clean energy that will power the equivalent of approximately 255,000 homes

COMMITTED TO THE ENVIRONMENT
The Solar Star projects are committed to maintaining a culture of environmental respect and compliance. At the project site, installation of integrated, modular solar technology is engineered to rapidly deploy utility-scale solar projects while minimizing land use.
In California’s Antelope Valley, where little rain and high winds are typical, dust control efforts are at the forefront of construction development and execution at the Solar Star projects.

To help reduce the amount of dust created due to construction, the Solar Star projects followed several practices, including:

- Grass was preseeded prior to construction
- The majority of the project land was not graded
- Active construction roads were watered regularly
- An environmentally friendly binding agent was applied to roadways to help seal heavily traveled areas
- Work areas were incrementally opened up in small, manageable sections, allowing dust to be better controlled
- Water trucks were on-site to control dust in areas where additional dust prevention was needed
- Reseeding took place as needed to encourage growth of vegetation

To remain in compliance with environmental obligations and to keep workers and community members safe, wind speeds and air opacity were monitored to ensure that dust control requirements, including cessation of certain construction activities, were adhered to when wind speeds increased.

From 2005 to 2009, water usage on the project site for agricultural irrigation ranged from 4.1 billion to 6.2 billion gallons per year. During construction, water usage dropped by 99 percent to approximately 43.3 million gallons per year for dust mitigation. Water usage during operations also is 99 percent less than during agricultural irrigation.

COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY

BHE Renewables is committed to the local Antelope Valley communities where the Solar Star projects are located. This commitment is demonstrated by being active in the community and supporting local events and hiring local workers who have the necessary skills for positions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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