



News Release

October 5, 2018

MSWD IS FLIPPING THE SWITCH ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Desert Hot Springs, CA — Mission Springs Water District, through a grant provided by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), is “Flipping the Switch” on a new one-megawatt SunPower solar plant.

In 2013, MSWD received a \$3.3 million award from mitigation fees for emissions offsets from the CPV Sentinel “peaker” power plant located in northern Palm Springs. The solar project is located north of 20th Avenue off of Little Morongo Road in Desert Hot Springs.

“This is a wonderful project for MSWD,” said Randy Duncan, President of MSWD’s Board of Directors, “The project is projected to save the District and its rate-payers over \$300,000 in electricity costs annually for the next 30 years. Additionally, the system is expected to provide 2.7 million megawatt hours of energy annually. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, that is equal to taking over 430 cars off the street every year!”

“We commend Mission Springs Water District for investing in solar energy, which is shown to sharply reduce pollution from burning fossil fuels while improving public health and air quality in local communities,” said Nam Nguyen, executive vice president of commercial solar for SunPower, the contractor for the project. “With a high-efficiency solar solution from SunPower, the District is expected to significantly reduce its reliance on traditional grid power, while saving on electricity costs for its customers.”

General Manager of MSWD, Arden Wallum said, “Stewardship is one of MSWD’s core values and projects like this one highlight our commitment to that value and to our customers. This project translates into real savings, and technology that translates into savings is technology that helps keep operating costs under control.”

The District expressed appreciation to former CA Assembly Member, now County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez for his assistance in negotiating the mitigation fund for the CPV Sentinel peaker plant project (AB-1318 (V. Perez)), and to the AQMD for granting the funds to move forward with the project.

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