June 28, 2012

Module Installation Begins at Antelope Valley Solar Ranch One

Los Angeles County leaders install first of 3.8 million photovoltaic solar panels

TEMPE, Ariz.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- First Solar, Inc. (Nasdaq: FSLR) today announced the installation of the first of 3.8 million solar modules at the 230-megawatt$_{AC}$ Antelope Valley Solar Ranch One power plant in Los Angeles County.



Jacob Williams, LA County Assistant Director of Public Works (r), installs first PV module at AV Solar Ranch One, with Jim Woodruff, First Solar Vice President for Government Affairs. (Photo: Business Wire)

Representatives from Los Angeles County's departments of Public Works and Regional Planning joined First Solar senior management and project workers in installing the 2-foot by 4-foot thin film photovoltaic (PV) module, marking the start of module installation, which the county approved on June 21, 2012.

First Solar and Public Works worked to achieve agreement on code certifications to ensure that all applicable building codes were met by the project.

"This process has paved the way for future projects in a region with enormous potential for solar energy development," said Tony Perrino, First Solar Director of Engineering, Procurement and Construction.

Located on 2,100 acres of former farmland, Antelope Valley Solar Ranch One is one of the largest construction projects under way in Los Angeles County. More than 385 workers are now being employed on the 2,100-acre site. When complete in 2013, the PV power plant will generate enough electricity for about 75,000 average California homes, while displacing 140,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide annually, the equivalent of taking 30,000 cars off the road each year.

About First Solar, Inc.

First Solar is a leading global provider of comprehensive photovoltaic (PV) solar systems which use its advanced thin-film modules. The company's integrated power plant solutions deliver an economically attractive alternative to fossil-fuel electricity generation today. From raw material sourcing through end-of-life module collection and recycling, First Solar's renewable energy systems protect and enhance the environment. For more information about First Solar, please visit www.firstsolar.com.

For First Solar Investors

This release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The forward-looking statements in this release do not constitute guarantees of future performance. Those statements involve a number of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, including risks associated with the company's business involving the company's products, their development and distribution, economic and competitive factors and the company's key strategic relationships and other risks detailed in the company's filings with the

Securities and Exchange Commission. First Solar assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking information contained in this press release or with respect to the announcements described herein.

Photos/Multimedia Gallery Available: http://www.businesswire.com/cgi-bin/mmg.cgi?eid=50326890&lang=en

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