

The Land Conservancy OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

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NRG Solar Shines Light on Octagon Barn Renovations

San Luis Obispo, CA – NRG Solar, a subsidiary company of NRG Energy, is planning to develop the 250-megawatt California Valley Solar Ranch in the Carrizo Plains of San Luis Obispo County. The California Valley Solar Ranch power plant alone, which will be built in partnership with SunPower Corp., is expected to



create approximately 350 jobs during construction, to power about 100,000 homes and will be one of the largest photovoltaic solar power plants in the world, when complete. With long-term operation plans in the San Luis Obispo County, NRG Solar has already begun partnering with other community organizations by offering charitable donations towards environmental stewardship and education, including a \$2,500 grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County's Octagon Barn Center sustainable renovations.

“NRG Solar provides safe, clean electricity from renewable solar power that benefits all Californians, and this renovation project demonstrates the same initiative on a local level by highlighting sustainable development,” said Tom Doyle, President of NRG Solar. *“Being good corporate neighbors and making contributions to improve the local communities where our employees live is a big part of how our Company operates.”*

The Octagon Barn Center will be a community gathering place to promote local agriculture, recreation, history, and education, while applying sustainability principles in its development and operations. The proposed developments build on the recently restored 110-year old Octagon Barn, unique in California and local icon in San Luis Obispo. The Center will host events (weddings, dances, field trips, etc) of up to 200 people in the Barn, serve community groups and programs in the 1,800 square foot Milking Parlor. Trailhead access to the primary Class 1 Bike Trail and nearly six acres of landscaped space will help demonstrate the beauty and utility of native plants. The Milking Parlor, an adjacent building to the Octagon Barn, is included in the renovation plans and will emphasize the potential of renewable energy and sustainable design practices. The Center is located in the city of San Luis Obispo so as to be readily accessible and visible to the local community.



“When a company like NRG Solar gets involved in supporting our community, we get excited. Not only are they supporting our vision of the Octagon Barn Center, but they believe in our mission of saving the special places in our County,” says Teresa Tibstra, Membership and Outreach Coordinator of The Land Conservancy. *“Investing in The Land Conservancy is like making an investment towards a better future for your employees and your business. It is our hope to inspire other businesses to invest in the conservation of our community.”*

To learn more about The Land Conservancy's renovations to the Octagon Barn, please visit www.LCSLO.org. To learn more about NRG Solar's California Valley Solar Ranch Project, please visit www.nrgsolarenergy.com.

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County is a local nonprofit working to protect and restore land for the benefit of people and wildlife. Since its formation in 1984, The Land Conservancy has led collaborative efforts to permanently protect over 11,000 acres of land in San Luis Obispo County. For more information visit www.LCSLO.org or call (805) 544-9096.

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