



Stirling Energy Systems, Inc.

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SES Files Application for Second Large Solar Plant in California

Manufacturing to boost US automotive jobs

(PHOENIX – December 1, 2008) Phoenix-based Stirling Energy Systems (SES) today filed an application to build its second large solar electricity generating system in Southern California.

The Application for Certification (AFC) submitted to the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is for an 850-megawatt (MW) solar generation facility. The SES Solar One project would be located on approximately 8,200 acres of desert land east of Barstow in the Mojave Desert.

“The SES SunCatcher is a proven technology that will ensure clean, green, solar energy at a price that is competitive with traditional electricity generation,” said Steve Cowman, Chief Executive Officer of SES. “We’re excited to be the first company with two large solar projects moving through the permitting process in California, to help secure a cleaner energy future.”

SES has a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Southern California Edison (SCE) for 500 MW, which can be expanded up to a total of 850 MW. The project will provide electricity for up to 600,000 homes at peak times in Southern California.

The approximately 5,000 page application for SES Solar One addresses numerous issues related to developing the project – including environmental, biological and workforce impacts. It is anticipated that the CEC and BLM processes and related government approvals will require approximately 12-18 months, allowing construction to proceed in 2010. The project will be constructed in two primary phases. The first will include 20,000 SunCatcher dishes generating 500 MW. The second phase would generate an additional 350 MW using 14,000 solar dishes. The project will connect to SCE’s existing Pisgah Substation.

The SES SunCatcher system holds a world record for efficiency in converting sunlight into electricity, and emits no greenhouse gases. The Solar One project will displace more than 7.2 million tons of harmful greenhouse gas emissions per year that would otherwise be produced by existing fossil fuel power plants. Each SunCatcher dish is 38 feet tall, 40 feet wide, and generates 25,000 watts of power. The SunCatcher technology consumes no water for cooling and uses very little water to keep the mirrors clean.

(more)

Solar One will also provide local and national economic benefits. SES is helping to create new jobs and a new industry in the hard-hit automotive sector. Approximately 75% of the components of each SunCatcher are manufactured and assembled in the United States, principally by automotive parts suppliers in the upper Midwest. The SES Solar One project is expected to generate an average of 400 construction jobs, 180 permanent operations jobs, and millions of dollars in wages and taxes.

The company also has a PPA with SDG&E for up to 900 MW of solar power to be generated by SES's Solar Two facility planned for California's Imperial Valley. SES's AFC for Solar Two was submitted to the CEC on June 30, 2008, and was deemed "data adequate" by the CEC in October 2008.

Stirling Energy Systems

SES was formed in 1996 to develop and commercialize advanced solar technology. The company maintains corporate headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona, offices in Berkeley and Tustin, California, and engineering and test site operations at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The SES SunCatcher is a concentrating solar power (CSP) technology that uses mirrors to concentrate the sun's energy and convert it to electricity. CSP technologies include dish systems, parabolic troughs, power towers and concentrating photovoltaic. The dish concentrator tracks, collects and focuses the sun's energy and the Stirling engine converts the thermal energy to grid quality electricity. The SunCatcher technology has significant advantages including power conversion efficiency, cost competitiveness and low water usage. The SunCatcher is a zero emission renewable energy technology.

NTR plc

NTR plc is a leading international developer and operator in renewable energy and sustainable waste management. Founded in 1978, NTR has evolved from being a developer and operator of infrastructure in Ireland to an international developer and operator of renewable energy (wind, solar and bio-ethanol), and sustainable waste management businesses in the USA, UK, and Ireland. The company employs over 4,100 people and has a market capitalization in excess of €800m.

More information can be found at <http://www.ntr.ie> and <http://www.stirlingenergy.com>

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