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Contact: Sean Gallagher, 602-957-1818  
Delaney Hunter, 916-813-1105

**SES Solar II Application Successfully Completes Data Phase  
Of CA Energy Commission Review**

*The World's Largest Solar Facility Achieves Critical Milestone in Path to Coming Online*

(PHOENIX – OCTOBER 8, 2008) Phoenix-based Stirling Energy Systems (SES) today announced that its Application for Certification (AFC) for its 750-megawatt solar generation project, "Solar II", has been deemed "data adequate" by the California Energy Commission (CEC) – moving the project another step closer to coming online. Data adequacy is a key step in the CEC permitting process and triggers the CEC's 12-month timeline to complete processing of the Solar II project.

"This is a critical milestone for the Company and reflects the very significant effort that we have invested to meet this target date", said Steve Cowman, SES Chief Executive Officer. "We thank the staff of the CEC and the BLM for their hard work and look forward to the next phases of this important project."

The Solar II AFC was submitted to the CEC on June 30, 2008 and will provide electricity for approximately 500,000 homes in the San Diego region. The facility would be located on 6,500 acres in the Imperial Valley. The 2,600-page application addresses numerous issues related to developing the project – including environmental, biological and workforce impacts.

The SES SunCatcher dish is the most efficient solar technology in the world and converts sunlight into electricity with no greenhouse gas emissions. Each 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.

SES has a Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) for the output of the Solar II project, which will be constructed in two primary phases. The first will include 12,000 SunCatcher dishes generating 300 megawatts. The second phase will generate 450 megawatts using 18,000 solar dishes, together helping SDG&E and California achieve their renewable energy goals.

## **About Stirling Energy Systems**

SES was formed in 1996 to develop and commercialize the Sun Catcher based concentrated solar power (CSP) system. The company maintains corporate headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona, project and technical development offices in Tustin, California, and engineering and test site operations at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The SES SunCatcher system 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 system has significant advantages including low water usage, high power conversion efficiency and cost competitiveness. The SunCatcher is a zero emission renewable energy technology.

## **About NTR plc**

NTR plc is a leading international developer and operator in renewable energy and sustainable waste management. NTR recently invested \$100 million in SES. 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 €1.3 bn (\$2 bn).

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

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