



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
FACT SHEET

**MAYOR'S PLAN USES STIMULUS FUNDS FOR MAJOR
SOLAR INITIATIVE AT BALBOA PARK**

*Proposal Leverages \$5 Million for 3 Megawatts of Clean
Energy at Iconic San Diego Attraction*

San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that the city of San Diego plans to leverage \$5 million in federal stimulus funds to build solar arrays capable of producing 3 megawatts of electricity – enough to power about 2,000 homes.

The total cost of the solar project – about \$30 million – will largely be borne by solar energy services provider SunEdison through a power purchase agreement, or PPA, with the city. Under the agreement, approved by the City Council in 2006, the city hosts photovoltaic solar energy systems at its facilities and purchases electricity from SunEdison at a long-term, fixed rate.

The \$5 million in federal stimulus funds will be used to offset a portion of SunEdison's capital costs for the 3-megawatt project, enough to lower fixed rates on the electricity produced — resulting in long-term energy cost savings for the city.

“This program could be a model for the rest of the nation of how to leverage federal stimulus dollars and ensure they deliver an economic boost in both the near and long term,” Sanders said. “It will put San Diegans to work in engineering and construction and will further solidify San Diego's position as a leader in clean technology innovation.”

The planned use of the stimulus funds fits into the mayor's economic-growth strategy, in which nurturing San Diego's growing clean-technology industry is a top priority. In addition to dedicating one of the city's economic development specialists to assist industry development, Sanders has recently unveiled several major initiatives aimed at spurring additional business and investment in the San Diego's 'green business' sector.

In December, the mayor announced his Clean Generation program, a residential solar financing program made possible by state legislation passed last year. The program, which allows San Diego homeowners to finance solar installations on their homes over 20 years on their property bills, is the first of its kind for a major U.S. city.

Last month, Sanders introduced the Clean Enterprise program, which provides no-interest financing of up to \$100,000 to small businesses for energy-efficient upgrades to their businesses.

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, enacted in February, San Diego will receive \$12.5 million in Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants. The city will host two public forums to discuss potential uses of the remaining \$7.5 million of these funds.

The first public forum will be held on Tuesday, May 12 at 6 p.m. at the La Jolla Riford Branch Library. The second will take place on Wednesday, May 20 at 6 p.m. at the Silver Concourse Room in the City Hall complex.

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