

Namaste Solar and Solaris Energy Help Colorado State University Double Its Solar Sites with Standard Solar as Owner

The sites included in this project provides the University the same cost for solar electricity until 2050.

FORT COLLINS, CO, UNITED STATES, October 12, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Colorado State University](#) (CSU) is now 20 steps closer to its goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2030. Yesterday, CSU, project partners [Namaste Solar](#), [Solaris Energy](#) and Standard Solar, students, staff and state government officials gathered on campus to celebrate the University's milestone deployment of solar energy on campus.

Over a two-year period starting in 2020, Namaste Solar, an employee-owned cooperative co-developed, designed and constructed the 4.25 MW (DC) of solar capacity across 20 sites on four CSU campuses in Fort Collins. Solaris Energy, a fellow Colorado based Certified B Corporation, co-developer and initial owner of the project, provided the legal structuring, financing and development oversight to make the project a reality.

Standard Solar, a national leader in development, funding, operation and ownership of commercial and community solar, is the project's long-term owner and operator.

"Our goal was to develop and finance the project in a way that provided long term operational expense savings to CSU with minimal upfront cost, allowing the University to put those savings toward students and innovation," stated Nick Perugini, Vice President and co-owner of Solaris Energy, "we're proud to be a part of a project that proves the financially beneficial solar possibilities today and will remain a shining example for generations to come."



Corbett Parmelee complex and Laurel Village at Colorado State University Fort Collins CO - photo credit Namaste Solar

CSU will receive solar electricity through a long-term Power Purchase Agreement. This fixes the solar electricity rate charge to CSU for 28 years, providing a hedge against the rising price of fossil fuel electricity.

“We will be paying the same for the power coming out of those solar arrays in 2050 as we do today,” said Carol Dollard, an energy engineer for CSU who helps manage the design and installation of renewable energy systems. “It’s a great investment for the University and it allows us to get solar on our buildings at a very low financial risk.”



Johnson Family Equine Hospital at Colorado State University in Fort Collins Colorado - photo credit Namaste Solar

CSU will retain ownership of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) attributed to the new systems, which will allow the portfolio of projects to be a major contributor toward CSU’s commitment to 100% renewable electricity by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2040. Owning RECs is certified proof that renewable energy is being used without having to directly own the solar installations.

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“When institutions like CSU work with local businesses such as Namaste Solar it amplifies the positive impacts to the local community.” said Jason Sharpe, CEO and co-owner of Namaste Solar. “This project supported 42 permanent jobs at Namaste Solar alone. In all, this multi-year project employed nearly 70 people and involved 16 companies, most of them being local. This benefits local families, the Fort Collins community, and Colorado’s

economy.”

With 17 out of 20 sites completed, the portfolio is estimated to be finished by early 2023. The sites include ground mounts and rooftop installations such as Johnson Family Equine Hospital, Laurel Village, Richardson Design Center, and the Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center (ARDEC). Combined, the systems will use 10,628 total panels and are expected to annually produce the equivalent of powering 827 homes with solar electricity throughout the system’s decades-long lifetime.

“Standard Solar is a proud participant in this partnership bringing solar energy to CSU, where more than 32,000 students live and learn,” said Shaun Laughlin, Director, Business Development at Standard Solar. “Higher educational institutions recognize the importance of transitioning to renewable energy, particularly solar. Not only does it provide significant cost savings and help reduce carbon emissions, but it also meets the demands of the generation attending colleges and universities. And they’ve said over and over that they want clean energy. Higher educational institutions seeking ways to cut operational costs, make a positive impact on the climate and serve their students should consider solar energy.”



Alpine Hall at Colorado State University in Fort Collins Colorado - photo credit Namaste Solar

Installation images. Credit Namaste Solar.

https://namastefiles.egnyte.com/fl/j3wvxueL1C/CSU_solar_installs_2021-2022_-_photo_credit_Namaste_Solar

Video overview of project. Credit Namaste Solar. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwwP_4Ck-y4

Oct 11 celebration event photos Credit Colorado State University.

<https://namastefiles.egnyte.com/fl/kUJ444YHeA>

ABOUT NAMASTE SOLAR:

Founded in Colorado in 2005, Namaste Solar is a fully integrated solar energy company providing services from design to install to ongoing operational support. We work with homeowners, commercial properties, municipalities, universities, hospitals, utilities, and community solar developers. To date, we have installed more than 10,000 clean renewable solar systems. As a Certified B Corporation and a Colorado public benefit corporation, we are on a mission to transform energy and transform the way business operates. We are 100% employee-owned, and our ownership mindset shows in the quality of our work. Learn more at: namastesolar.com

ABOUT SOLARIS ENERGY, LLC:

Based in Fort Collins, Colorado, and grown from non-profit roots, Solaris Energy is an experienced, value-driven solar development, finance, and asset management firm. The

company accelerates the widespread deployment of distributed solar energy systems while providing investors with attractive rates of return and offering low-cost financing to non-profits, municipalities, schools, and other commercial and industrial customers looking to reduce their environmental impact, increase their bottom line and participate in the worldwide shift to renewable energy. Solaris Energy's dedicated team of passionate individuals has been providing these services since 2008, building a strong track record of proven and cost-effective renewable energy solutions across all sectors of energy consumers. For more information visit: solarisenergy.com

ABOUT STANDARD SOLAR

Standard Solar, a Brookfield Renewable company, is powering the nation's energy transformation – channeling its project development capabilities, financial strength and technical expertise to deliver the benefits of solar and solar + storage to businesses and institutions, farms, governments, communities and utilities. Building on 18 years of sustainable growth and in-house and tax equity investment capital, Standard Solar is a national leader in developing, funding and long-term ownership and operation of commercial and community solar assets. Recognized as an established financial partner with immediate, deep resources, the company has 500 MW of operating and under construction contracted assets and a robust development pipeline across the U.S. Standard Solar is based in Rockville, Md. Learn more at <https://standardsolar.com>, LinkedIn and Twitter: @StandardSolar.

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