

FEATURE RELEASE:

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First Valley Homebuilder to Offer Solar as Option

VIP Homes works with ASE & SRP to offer solar on new homes

Mesa, AZ - Valley Homebuilder VIP Homes has partnered with Salt River Project to offer homebuyers the option of adding a two to 4-kilowatt solar electric system for their new home. The 2-kilowatt system option, after SRP's EarthWise Solar Energy Program rebate in addition to state and federal tax credits, would be provided at virtually no cost to the homebuyer. A 4-kilowatt system would cost the homeowner an estimated \$8,000, which could be added to the mortgage.



The offer is available to all homes purchased now through the end of 2006 in the homebuilder's Whisper Mountain, Sonoran Wells, Dobbins Crossing, Vaquero Estates and the soon to be constructed Nauvoo Station communities located in Mesa, Queen Creek and the South Mountain area in Phoenix. As a result, homeowners will generate clean electricity during daylight hours from their PV systems and see lower energy bills year-round.

In addition to the SRP rebate and the tax credits offered by the state and federal governments, the owner of a 2,000 square-foot home can expect to see a savings of about 20 percent a year from a typical 2-kilowatt system.

“VIP has always made energy efficiency of paramount importance. Finally, with advancing technology, a product is available that makes solar electric a viable option, not only because of efficiency and output, but also affordability. This will probably be the biggest step we have been able to take, because to date, our efforts have been focused purely on decreasing the need or usage of power in our homes. This will not only add to that, but in certain conditions, it will actually produce a surplus of power,” said Victor Petersen, Production Manager of VIP Homes.

With this commitment, VIP Homes becomes the first builder in the Valley to include photovoltaic technology as an integrated feature in a multi-home, single-family residential community. In addition, VIP Homes is also a participant of the SRP PowerWise Homes Program, which partners with builders to construct energy efficient homes that save homeowners approximately \$300 annually in energy costs.

“We are proud to be a part of VIP’s commitment to the environment and we encourage other businesses to consider doing the same,” said Lori Singleton, manager of SRP Environmental Initiatives. “SRP is committed to offering clean energy solutions, and we recognize many people are interested in offsetting the energy usage of their future homes with clean renewable energy.”

American Solar Electric, Inc., a Scottsdale-based firm that specializes in photovoltaic power systems, was selected to be the exclusive system provider to VIP Homes’ solar integration.

“This is a remarkable commitment from one of Arizona’s leading builders” said Sean Seitz, President of American Solar Electric. “VIP Homes customers will benefit financially from the forward-thinking actions of their builder and our community benefits from the addition clean, renewable energy systems in our neighborhoods.

VIP Homes is a family owned and operated building company located in Mesa. VIP's trademarks are energy efficiency and quality with the flexibility to make changes. Every VIP home is built to be at least 30% more efficient than the model energy code calls for. Additional information on the company is available on-line at www.viphomes.com

Salt River Project is the largest provider of power to the greater Phoenix metropolitan area, serving more than 890,000 electricity customers. SRP's EarthWise Solar Energy Program provides incentives to customers that install solar energy systems on their homes and businesses. Additional information is available at www.srpnet.com/solar

American Solar Electric, Inc. is a Scottsdale-based design-build firm specializing in photovoltaic (solar electric) power systems for commercial, industrial and residential applications. The company offers complete design services and is licensed, bonded and insured for both commercial and residential electrical contracting in the State of Arizona (AZ ROC License #168657). Additional information is available at www.americanpv.com

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