



# CAL MARITIME

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SOLAR POWER COMING TO CAL MARITIME**

(Vallejo, CA – October 21, 2008)... The California Maritime Academy is one of 16 campuses of the California State University (CSU) system selected to participate in the expansion of green energy generation throughout the state. Through a public-private partnership agreement with solar service provider SunEdison, CSU and participating schools will install a total of 8 megawatts (MW) of solar power at the campuses. In the first year of operation, the systems are expected to deliver up to 12.2 million kilowatt hours (kWh) of clean renewable energy – about the annual energy consumption of 1,256 households.

Early planning has begun at Cal Maritime for the deployment of solar arrays atop the school's largest dormitory, known as Upper Res – located on a hill above the main campus. According to Cal Maritime Facilities Planner Roger Jaeckel, the building's large flat roof and open solar exposure throughout the day made it a natural choice. Solar experts will work with Cal Maritime's Facilities staff to determine the orientation of the arrays for maximum efficiency and the output they will generate. A date for the work will be determined as part of the system-wide installation planning process.

The CSU system already receives 15 percent of its system-wide electricity from green sources and these latest installations will push that figure over 20 percent. Len Pettis, Chief of Plant, Energy and Utilities for the CSU Chancellor's Office said the agreements will generate zero greenhouse gasses -- an offset of almost 9,500 metric tons of carbon dioxide and equivalent to removing nearly 49,000 cars from the road.

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Under a state competitive bidding process, SunEdison will finance, build and operate the systems. CSU campuses will purchase the energy generated at prices equal to or less than current retail rates. The installations are part of an ongoing state initiative to reduce grid-based energy purchases for state-owned buildings by 20 percent by 2015.

Cal Maritime Vice President for Administrative and Finance Mark Nickerson said the installation is part of an ongoing Cal Maritime and CSU focus on reducing consumption. “A significant number of our buildings date back to the 1940s when this campus was first established at Vallejo,” he notes. “In recent years, we have been systematically upgrading boilers, replacing inefficient windows, and moving to the use of more energy-efficient lighting. It’s not glamorous work, but the payoffs in today’s climate of soaring energy costs, are significant.”

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