



NEWS RELEASE

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Dec. 15, 2009

Xcel Energy, ENMU-R break ground on Roswell community solar project



ROSWELL – Xcel Energy and Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell are breaking ground today on a 35-kilowatt solar installation at ENMU-R’s campus at the Roswell International Air Center

The project is part of Xcel Energy’s New Mexico Community Solar program, which is placing solar installations in four eastern and southeastern New Mexico communities as a means of educating the public about the benefits of solar power in New Mexico.

The first community-based solar installation was put in place earlier this year on the roof of Xcel Energy’s service center in Hobbs. Two more, in addition to the Roswell installation, are planned in two other communities, but locations have not yet been disclosed.

Albuquerque-based Sacred Power Corp. has been awarded the ENMU-R bid, and is working with Xcel Energy to design the project. Xcel Energy is planning a demonstration project that uses various types and technologies of photovoltaic (PV) solar technology. Those types would include a rooftop installation, stand-alone, single axis array and a dual axis array, said Mike McLeod, regional manager for community and economic development in Roswell.

The company expects to have the project finished by March.

The site will be accessible to the public and will include information describing the type of technology being demonstrated, McLeod said. Also, meters will be installed to show the output of the solar installation.

“New Mexico has some of the best solar resources in the nation,” McLeod said. “Yet the general public still knows very little about solar technology and how it can benefit our economy. These installations will provide valuable information to Xcel Energy and our communities.”

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Xcel Energy already is adding solar power to its energy mix through Solar*Rewards, a program that encourages customers to install their own solar generation and then rewards them by purchasing the renewable energy certificates these installations generate. And the company plans to add utility-grade solar generating capacity that could become the largest in the state.

More information can be found at the New Mexico Solar Community Project [website](#). Customers can learn more about Solar*Rewards by visiting the Solar Rewards [homepage](#).

Xcel Energy (NYSE: XEL) is a major U.S. electricity and natural gas company with regulated operations in eight Western and Midwestern states. Xcel Energy provides a comprehensive portfolio of energy-related products and services to 3.4 million electricity customers and 1.9 million natural gas customers through its regulated operating companies. Company headquarters are located in Minneapolis. More information is available at www.xcelenergy.com.

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