



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Army, Developer Ink Pioneering Solar Project Agreement for Fort Irwin**

**BALTIMORE** — The Department of the Army, Clark Energy Group of Arlington, Va., and Acciona Solar Power of Henderson, Nev., will launch the largest solar energy project in Department of Defense history Oct. 15 with the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for an Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) at Fort Irwin, Calif., home of the Army's premier heavy maneuver Combat Training Center and NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Complex.

"The Fort Irwin Solar EUL is an important component of the Department of the Army's goal to implement bold energy initiatives that lessen dependence on foreign sources of fuel and enhance stewardship of the nation's energy resources," said Mr. Jerry Hansen, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and the Environment), and the Army's Senior Energy Executive.

The landmark renewable energy EUL calls for development of more than 500 megawatts (MW) of solar power across multiple plants to be completed between 2013 and 2022. In total, the 21-square-mile project will be capable of generating 1,250-gigawatt hours (GWh) of clean, non-polluting electricity.

Administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, the EUL will enable Clark and Acciona to lease up to 14,000 acres of the installation's land to develop the industrial-scale solar power complex. Over the next

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90 days, Clark and Acciona will begin rigorous environmental impact studies and reviews in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The review and compliance phase could take up to two years.

The innovative EUL leverages the power of private capital and expertise to fund installation operating costs in exchange for long-term leases of Army land. The structure allows the Army to solve energy security issues affecting mission critical operations at Fort Irwin, as well as meeting aggressive regional, renewable energy goals.

“With the start of this project, the Army is demonstrating how creative thinking will make it possible to achieve critical national priorities without increasing government spending,” said Francis Coen, managing director of Clark Energy Group. “Our partnership with the Army will address energy security vulnerabilities, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, help the Army to achieve numerous energy-related goals, and create local green jobs. And it will do all of this without costing taxpayers a dime.”

The Fort Irwin Solar EUL was initially conceived by Clark and Acciona as a 500-MW development that uses multiple solar energy technologies. Future development potential may increase to 1,000 MW of electricity should sufficient demand and transmission line capacity exist. The 13-year, \$1.5 billion phased implementation holistically considers site characteristics, environmental constraints, available resources, current and future technologies, costs, access to transmission lines, and length of approval and connection processes at each stage of development.

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The Secretary of the Army identified the Fort Irwin Solar EUL as a pilot project in October 2008 at the launching of the Senior Energy Council, which was tasked to coordinate and promote energy security policy for the Army. The Fort Irwin EUL is part and parcel of a more comprehensive and far-reaching Army Energy Security Implementation Strategy, which is changing how the Army operates and deploys. The Army is spending more than \$1 billion on energy security projects this year, including nearly \$700 million in Army energy stimulus funds.

“The future is here today,” said Laurence Greene, director of development for Acciona Solar Power. “We will apply proven, financeable, renewable energy technologies to harness the sun and generate solar power — further advancing our nation’s energy independence.”

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, administers the Army EUL program to leverage private capital and expertise to fund installation maintenance and operations costs in exchange for long-term leases of Army land through its statutory authority, Title 10 USC, Section 2667. For more information, visit <http://eul.army.mil/>.

Clark Energy Group is a full-service energy services company with a focus on energy efficiency, energy security, sustainability, and renewable energy generation. For more information, visit [www.clarkenergygroup.com](http://www.clarkenergygroup.com).

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Acciona Solar Power is a majority-owned affiliate of Acciona Energy North America Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Acciona Energía, a division of the international company Acciona SA, headquartered in Madrid, Spain. For more information, visit [www.acciona.com](http://www.acciona.com).

Fort Irwin is located northeast of Barstow, Calif., in the High Mojave Desert, midway between Las Vegas, Nev., and Los Angeles. The National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin is the only instrumented training facility in the world suitable for force-on-force and live-fire training of heavy, brigade-sized military forces. The realistic training provided at the NTC assures soldiers are adequately prepared to protect and preserve U.S. interests here and abroad.

Fort Irwin is also home to NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex, one of three facilities in the world that, together, provide an international network of antennas to track and communicate with space missions.

For information on the press conference to be held at the signing, see the attached Department of the Army media advisory.

A full media kit is located at <http://www.clarkenergygroup.com/irwinpressconference>.