



May 19, 2010

## **Residential Group Homes to Receive Donated Solar Donation to Non-Profit Made Possible by Stimulus Funds, Salt River Project**

**What:** Salt River Project, Arizona Department of Commerce Director Don Cardon and Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman will join residents of a group home operated by The Centers for Habilitation to announce the donation of solar-powered PV systems funded by a federal stimulus grant and SRP. The residential group home is one of many to be equipped with solar energy systems through the \$1.7 million Income Qualified Residential Solar Electric Program.

The funding is the result of a Federal Recovery Act grant to the Arizona Department of Commerce, and a matching grant from SRP. The photovoltaic systems will be installed on up to 13 group homes owned and managed by The Centers for Habilitation in Tempe, Mesa and Ahwatukee. Up to six developmentally or physically disabled individuals live in each residential group home with a 24-hour care manager on site. SRP is also working with other non-profit organizations that may be able to participate in the program.

**When/Where:** **10 a.m., Friday, May 21 at a residential group home for the developmentally disabled located at 2169 E. Apollo Ave., Tempe 85283.**

**Speakers will include Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman, Arizona Department of Commerce Director Don Cardon, SRP Manager of Sustainable Initiatives and Technologies Lori Singleton, The Center for Habilitation CEO Dave Cutty, and residents of the home.**

**Why:** The recession that has swept across the nation in recent years has resulted in severe cuts in funding for The Centers for Habilitation. In addition, utility costs are a large expense for group homes, which often are equipped with medical equipment and use more electricity than typical residential homes.

Approximately 80 residents will benefit under the Income Qualified Residential Solar Electric Program. Each home will be equipped with an average 5-kilowatt system, which will cover up to half of their electric needs resulting in an average savings of \$1,000 a year per home.

For more information, contact SRP Media Relations Representative Patty Garcia-Likens at (602) 236-2500, Mike Branom with Tempe Mayor's office at 480.350.8916 or David Drennan at Arizona Department of Commerce at (602) 771-1112.