



### 3rd Solar Power Plant for Gila Bend



*17-Megawatt AZ Sun Project Will Come Online Later This Year*

PHOENIX--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--For the first time, Arizona's largest electric utility — Arizona Public Service Company — and Arizona's largest solar manufacturer — First Solar — are working together to harness the power of the sun. APS has contracted with First Solar to design and build the Paloma Solar Plant, a 17-megawatt photovoltaic facility in Gila Bend, Ariz. APS will own the plant, which is expected to come online in September 2011.

Paloma is one of five solar plants currently under development in [APS's AZ Sun program](#). Through the program, APS will finance and own 100 megawatts of solar photovoltaic power plants in Arizona. Upon completion, the program is expected to have at least six plants, which will be designed and constructed by third-party solar developers, contractors and equipment providers. With Paloma, the AZ Sun Program now has commitments for 83 megawatts of solar capacity. The entire program is expected to be completed by the end of 2014.

"Through the AZ Sun program, we have been able to move quickly to begin building new solar power plants to complement our other generating resources. We expect these plants to provide clean, reliable energy to our customers for at least the next 30 years," said [Don Robinson](#), APS president and chief operating officer.

With Paloma, APS's total renewable energy portfolio is 875 megawatts, counting projects online and in development. Of that total, 288 megawatts are in service today, providing enough electricity to meet the needs of 72,000 Arizona homes. Complete details on current and future APS renewable projects are available online at [aps.com/remap](http://aps.com/remap).

The Paloma plant will be built on the site of a former alfalfa farm. The facility will use 300,000 thin-film photovoltaic panels mounted on fixed-tilt steel frames. It is the first time thin-film panels will be used for an APS solar plant.

"First Solar is pleased to be working with APS, a leader in green energy," said Jim Lamon, First Solar senior vice president of engineering, procurement and construction. "Our advanced thin-film technology and our systems engineering and construction expertise will help APS turn Arizona's vast solar resource into clean, renewable energy."

Paloma and Cotton Center, APS's other AZ Sun photovoltaic project in Gila Bend, will be located less than a mile apart.

#### IN THIS ISSUE...

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Solar Plant for Gila Bend
- Recycling at Well #
- Council Meeting Replaced by Council Retreat
- Community Calenda
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Refuse Collection
- State Route 85 Project Update
- Clerks Corner
- Pitch In for Gila Bend

"In collaboration with APS, the Town of Gila Bend is continuing to demonstrate its national leadership in promoting, locating and fast-tracking utility scale solar," said Ron Henry, mayor of Gila Bend. "The Paloma plant represents another major solar energy investment APS has made in our community. We appreciate this continuing partnership, and we are proud to foster the development of solar energy."

Gila Bend is also home to Solana, a concentrating solar plant being built by Abengoa Solar. APS has a contract to purchase all of Solana's generation beginning in 2013.

APS, Arizona's largest and longest-serving electricity utility, serves more than 1.1 million customers in 11 of the state's 15 counties. With headquarters in Phoenix, APS is the principal subsidiary of [Pinnacle West Capital Corp.](#) (NYSE: PNW).

Retrieved April 6, 2011 from the Town of Gila Bend website at [www.gilabendaz.org](http://www.gilabendaz.org)

### Recycling at Well #4



A large recycling bin for your plastics, paper, cans and glass is available at Well #4, located by the Gila Bend School. Recycling lessens the amount of trash placed in refuse containers and helps prevent overflowing containers.

Recycling your plastics, paper, cans and glass helps the protect the environment for our future generations and promotes healthier, cleaner living.

### Pitch-In for Gila Bend Event a Success

Event organizer, Gray Faupel, said the Pitch-In for Gila Bend event held last month was a great success with more residents "pitching-in" to clean up Gila Bend than last year. Many thanks to all of the volunteers who worked hard and did a great job.

Thanks to all of the businesses, organizations and individuals who donated gifts of money and supplies to help beautify our town. Special thanks to Gila River Power for their generosity.

## April / May 2011 Community Calendar

April 5, 2011



- 04/04 – Little League Registration Begins
- 04/12 – Council Meeting Cancelled
- 04/12 – Council Retreat (6:00pm)
- 04/18 – Little League Season Starts
- 04/23 – Easter Egg Hunt (10:00am)
- 04/26 – Council Meeting – Regular Meeting (6:00pm)
- 05/20– Little League Season Ends
- 05/30 –Office Closed for Memorial Day
- 05/30 – Memorial Day Observed (Pioneer Cemetery)

### Council Meeting Replaced By Annual Council Retreat

April 6, 2011

The regularly scheduled Council Meeting of April 12, 2011 will not be held in order that the Gila Bend Town Council attend the annual Council Retreat.

This year the retreat will be held at the Southern Dunes Golf Club in Maricopa, AZ at 6:00pm. The retreat is the time when Councilmember's and Staff work on process management for the upcoming fiscal year, state what they see as priorities and work with Management and Staff.

Town Staff will share their department achievements and express their goals for the coming year. This is a "discussion only" meeting with no items being voted on.

### Easter Egg Hunt



The Town of Gila Bend will host the Easter Egg Hunt on April 23, 2011 beginning 10:00am at McMahan Field. Kids from ages 1 to 9 can participate in the egg hunt with a prize being given to the top boy and girl in each age group.

### Clerk's Corner

April 6, 2011



#### Election Run-Off

A Run-Off Election will be held in May to choose three (3) new Councilmembers. Our recent election resulted in only one Council Candidate, Steve Holt, receiving enough votes to be seated in accordance with the Rules and Regulations that govern Elections. Important election dates are:

April 14 – Early Voting Begins

April 18 – Voter Registration Closes

May 17 – ELECTION DAY (Early Voting Closes)

## State Route 85 Project Update

April 6, 2011



You may have noticed the reduction of heavy equipment working on SR85. While excavating fill dirt operators found archaeological artifacts. As required by law, work in that area of the project was halted and the State Historic Preservation Office contacted.

A minimal crew will continue working on other areas of the project until the minor setback is concluded.

According to the ADOT website at [www.azdot.gov](http://www.azdot.gov), when the State Route 85 Project is completed, Gila Bend residents can expect:

- A safer intersection at SR 85 (Pima Street) and B-8
- Upgrades to Pima Street and Maricopa Road
- New bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad
- SR 85 and cross streets in project area will be repaved
- Improved drainage system
- Enhanced solar lighting
- New landscaping
- Upgraded signs and pavement markings

Retrieved on April 6, 2011 from ADOT website at [http://www.azdot.gov/highways/projects/SR85\\_gilabend](http://www.azdot.gov/highways/projects/SR85_gilabend)

### Refuse Collection Requirements for Pick-Up



To insure that your refuse is collected, please use the following guidelines:

- **Do not overfill containers.** Overflowing containers cannot be properly emptied.
- **Container lids should be kept closed.**
- **Place cans no farther than four (4) feet from the street.**
- **Containers must face towards the street.** Containers facing backwards or sideways will not be picked up or emptied. Forward facing containers are required for preservation of both the container and lid.
- **Keep area around container clear by at least four (4) feet in all directions.**

The Town of Gila Bend requests that residents:

- Place container street side the night before scheduled pick-up day
- Remove containers from streetside and return cans to inside resident property

Following the guidelines insures pickup of your refuse and extends the life of the refuse container, saving the Town money.