

PimaCountyCommunityCollegeDistrict
Board of Governors
4905C East Broadway/Tucson, Arizona 85709-1010

ACTION ITEM

Date: 3/09/2016

Item Number:

Item Title	Contact Person
Contract: Solar Energy Power Purchase Agreement – Phase II	William R. Ward II Vice Chancellor for Facilities and College Police (206-2610)

Recommendation:

The Chancellor recommends that the Board of Governors authorize the College through the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Facilities and College Police, or designee to conclude negotiations with Solon Corporation / Solar City and to sign an Energy Power Purchase Agreement in conformity with the terms described in this Board report.

Justification:

Pima Community College is dedicated to decreasing energy costs, exploring various options for renewable energy that would include installing solar covered parking throughout the District. In order to take advantage of this cost saving agreement, the College must complete the second phase of this project by December 31, 2016. On January 1, 2017 a utility tariff change will take place which will reduce credits for solar generation thus eliminating solar installation as a cost reduction option for the college. The Solar Energy Power Purchase Agreement would allow for a fixed rate of power generated by the solar system for 25 years.

The College has recently requested the Solon Corporation / Solar City to perform an energy audit and feasibility analysis for the second phase of installations of solar covered parking lots that would include LED lighting. As in the previous solar installations that were installed during Phase I, the Solon Corporation has agreed to replace trees removed during construction. They will plant three replacement trees for every single tree removed through the US Forest Service. In addition, the vendor will help the College develop curriculum that provides educational opportunities for students interested in solar technology.

Phase I of the solar project consisted of approximately 2.5 MW (megawatts) of photovoltaic arrays installed at Maintenance & Security, Downtown Campus, West Campus, and Community Campus. Phase II campuses have been evaluated and qualified and they will include: Desert Vista Campus, East Campus, and Northwest Campus.

Phase II will approximately add an additional 5 MW of power generation produced by photovoltaic arrays. The final totals of power generation will be known pending Utility Interconnection Application approval.

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Strategic Plan 2014 - 2017

Strategic direction 4: Improve responsiveness to the needs of business community and economic development opportunities by:

- 4.2 Partner with industry to customize education/training programs
- 4.5 Partner with industry leaders to provide the skilled workforce necessary to grow the following emerging sectors: renewable energy

Financial Considerations:

It is estimated that \$23,034 in savings will be achieved in the first year of the agreement. Over the 25 year life of the agreement the college is estimated to achieve \$4,028,000 in savings. Estimates are based on a 3% annual cost increase in utility electricity. The required budget cost to the College for the second phase of this project is \$0.00 dollars.

Contact Person _____
William R. Ward II

Chancellor _____
Lee D. Lambert, J. D.