



**Department of
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 22, 2010

Shinseki Awards Solar Energy Projects *VA to Install Solar Panels at 18 Medical Centers*

WASHINGTON – The Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded \$20.2 million to install solar energy systems at 18 VA medical centers.

"Using renewable energy sources by installing solar panels at our Veterans' medical centers is the future of our department," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. "These improvements will help transform VA and enhance our high quality of patient care."

The solar projects are projected to be operational by September 2010 at 18 facilities in eight states and American Samoa. The solar energy projects will increase use of renewable energy sources. The solar cell installations will have a total capacity of 3,020 kilowatts.

VA is using crystalline silicon modules for its solar panels. The feasibility studies determined that using crystalline silicon was the best option for all of the facilities. These solar panels will be installed on roof tops, carports, or ground-mounted depending on the facility.

VA is conducting solar feasibility studies at 31 additional facilities using Recovery Act funding.

VA operates more than 1,400 sites of care. More than 5.5 million people received care in VA health care facilities in 2008.

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VA To Install Solar Cell Systems 2/2/2

VA Facilities Receiving Solar Panels

Name of Facility	City, State/Territory
VA American Samoa Community-based Outpatient Clinic	Pago Pago, American Samoa
Phoenix VA Healthcare System	Phoenix
Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System	Tucson, Ariz
VA Central California Healthcare System	Fresno, Calif.
VA Long Beach Healthcare System	Long Beach, Calif.
VA Palo Alto Healthcare System	Palo Alto, Calif.
West Los Angeles Healthcare System Center	Los Angeles
McClellan Outpatient Clinic	Sacramento, Calif.
Mare Island Outpatient Clinic	Vallejo, Calif.
Northern California Healthcare System	Mather, Calif.
VA Connecticut Healthcare System	West Haven, Conn.
VA Pacific Islands Healthcare System	Honolulu, Hawaii
VA Sierra Nevada Healthcare System	Reno, Nev.
Samuel S. Stratton VAMC	Albany, N.Y.
VA Western New York Healthcare	Buffalo, N.Y.
Syracuse VAMC	Syracuse, N.Y.
West Texas VA Healthcare System	Big Spring, Texas
Cheyenne VAMC	Cheyenne, Wyo.

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