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Solar Panels Installed at Loveland Living Planet Aquarium

The Loveland Living Planet Aquarium just went solar! New solar panels were installed at the Aquarium last month, thanks to a funding award from Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky program. The Aquarium was awarded \$175,000 in Blue Sky funding for its new solar array.

Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky program provides customers with an easy and convenient way to support renewable energy in the western United States and here in Utah. The Aquarium's solar project is one of more than 100 community-based renewable energy projects in Utah that have been awarded Blue Sky funds since 2006. There are currently more than 38,700 Blue Sky customers in Utah.

"We congratulate the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium on its new solar array, made possible by our Utah customers who choose to support renewable energy through our Blue Sky program," said Alene Bentley, Rocky Mountain Power customer and community manager. "The solar panels will be an exciting addition to the new Draper facility, where hands-on activities will provide an opportunity for students and other visitors to learn about solar energy while also learning about the many aquatic species housed at the Aquarium."

The Aquarium currently has 240 solar panels on the roof. Each year they will produce around 94,000 kilowatt-hours. This current system covers about six percent of the total energy used by the Aquarium.

This 61.50-kilowatt installation is phase one of the Aquarium's plan to cover the entire roof with solar panels. When all phases are completed and the roof is covered with 1,200 solar panels, the solar array would produce enough energy to supply close to 40 percent of the total power used by the Aquarium. We hope the public will join us in supporting fundraising efforts to purchase more solar panels by donating to the Aquarium. We also encourage Utah residents and businesses to support renewable energy development by becoming a Rocky Mountain Power Blue Sky customer.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: The Aquarium is providing a unique opportunity this Thursday for members of the media to get **roof access** in order to get photos and video of the solar panels. It's a timely solar energy story given that the summer solstice – the longest day of sunlight this year – takes place this week.

WHO: Loveland Living Planet Aquarium, Rocky Mountain Power and Synergy Power officials
Suzy Broadbent, Loveland Living Planet Aquarium



LOVELAND LIVING PLANET
AQUARIUM

Alene Bentley, Jeff Hymas, and mascot Slim the Lineman, Rocky Mountain Power
Chad Hofheins, Synergy Power (solar installer)

WHAT: Celebration of Phase One of solar panel installation at Loveland Living Planet Aquarium

WHEN: Thursday, June 19 at 12:00pm

WHERE: Loveland Living Planet Aquarium
12033 S. Lone Peak Parkway Draper, UT

www.thelivingplanet.com

www.facebook.com/thelivingplanetaquarium

www.twitter.com/LivingPlanetUT

www.instagram.com/lovelandlivingplanet

About the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium

The Aquarium is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Aquarium's mission is to inspire people to explore, discover and learn about Earth's diverse ecosystems. Advance tickets and memberships may be purchased online at www.thelivingplanet.com. Ticket sales help support the Aquarium's mission. The Loveland Living Planet Aquarium is located at 12033 South Lone Peak Parkway in Draper, Utah.

About Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky Renewable Energy Program

For as little as \$1.95 per month, Rocky Mountain Power customers can help bring new renewable energy projects on-line by enrolling in the Blue Sky program. Blue Sky has been among the country's leading utility green power programs for more than a decade and is Green-e Energy certified by the nonprofit Center for Resource Solutions. Rocky Mountain Power plans to build its first large-scale solar farm in Utah in partnership with Blue Sky customers in the state. Help make a difference by signing up for Blue Sky today at www.rockymountainpower.net/bluesky.

