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By Editors of Power Engineering

The City of Palo Alto Utilities and sPower announced two more utility-scale solar facilities have begun operation.

The new facilities, developed, owned and operated by sPower, are the 40-MW Elevation Solar C and the 20-MW Western Antelope Blue Sky Ranch B, both near Lancaster, California. CPAU will purchase all energy generated from the two under a 25-year agreement.

Both entities estimate Palo Alto now receives one-third of all energy used from solar, though the city's electricity supply has been 100 percent carbon-neutral since 2013.

"The City is committed to delivering reliable, affordable and environmentally friendly power," said Ed Shikada, assistant city manager and general manager of Utilities. "Adding these solar projects to our diverse electric supply portfolio is in line with our sustainability values and helps us move closer to the ultimate goal of 100 percent carbon free electricity. I am also proud to say that through these long-term contracts, we continue to put our customers' best financial interests first, as the rates we are paying for the energy are some of the lowest we have ever seen."

sPower estimates it will bring nearly 500 MW of renewable projects online in the last quarter of this year and expand its total portfolio to over 1 GW. sPower is the largest private owner of operating solar assets in the United States.

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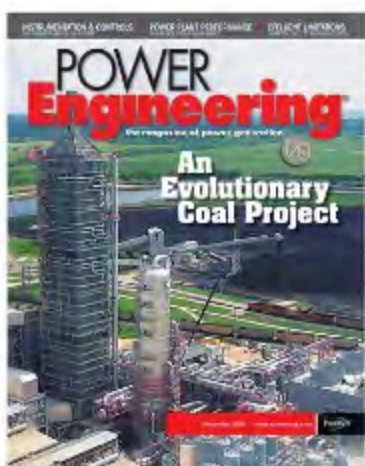


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