



2009 PROGRESS ENERGY SOLAR SCHOOLS APPLICATION

About the Progress Energy SolarSchools program

In the Progress Energy SolarSchools program, middle and high schools compete for the installation of solar panels, which will offset the schools' electricity use, to be installed on their school's campus. **Only middle and high schools that are customers of Progress Energy Carolinas are eligible to participate in this program.**

First, eligible schools should complete an intent to compete form and submit it by August 15, 2009.

Next, schools will confirm viability as a solar site by completing the solar site assessment and submitting it by August 30, 2009.

The program application is due on October 2, 2009.

Once a school has decided to participate in the application process, schools will complete the action plan included in this application. Finalist schools will be selected from the pool of applications, and will be asked to complete an Energy Challenge.

The number of teachers and students participating in the program for each school is optional. For example, some schools may choose to select a specific class to participate, some schools may choose to assign this project to an Energy Club, and other schools may gather a cross-section of students from varying grade levels to complete the project. As long as each component of the project is completed, the level of involvement is up to each school.

The schools' Energy Challenge will be submitted by written documents and video. The projects will be judged in regional competitions. Five schools – four from North Carolina and one from South Carolina – will win a two-kilowatt demonstration-size, solar photovoltaic system valued at more than \$20,000 to be installed by Argand Solar on the schools' campus. **Educational materials for teachers will accompany the winning solar panel installations.**

ACTION PLAN – deadline for submittal is October 2, 2009

To ensure that Progress Energy SolarSchools becomes an ongoing part of school activities, the school must integrate into existing school programs the classroom supplements that Progress Energy Carolinas will provide to winning schools.

An action plan for implementing the Progress Energy SolarSchools program in your school is the basis of the application. Please provide the school's responses in the template on page three of this application.

- How will your school involve students, faculty and staff, promote the solar array installation to the community? It is important to demonstrate as specifically as possible how your approach involves teachers, students and administrators committed to making the installation one of the school's cornerstone learning experiences.
- Name a specific staff member who has been designated "solar program coordinator." Cite qualifications of this staff member to serve as coordinator and specific steps the coordinator will take to maximize the impact of the program. Describe the coordinator's ability to work with administration, facilities personnel, students, teachers, and the community at-large.
- Provide the names of a team of teachers committed to the program and how the solar program coordinator will work with them.
- Will the school's facilities staff be available to oversee the installation of the solar hardware, and will they be responsible for caring for and maintaining the solar hardware? (Schools will be provided with training for facilities personnel and will receive an owner's manual)
- The solar program coordinator should submit a written explanation of why the school needs and deserves a solar installation.

Criteria for selection of finalists

Submitting a quality, competitive action plan will demonstrate a school's commitment to the program. Only those schools with a strong interest and enthusiasm for integrating the solar array and accompanying renewable energy education materials into the classroom – if the school wins – should apply.

Schools that best demonstrate creativity, initiative and ability to gather school and community support, as well as the support of school staff at every level, are most likely to succeed. The Progress Energy SolarSchools program seeks to educate not only the students involved in the education program, but the community at-large and, therefore, will attempt to identify applicants that plan to make an impact within their communities.

Finalists will be selected and announced no later than October 16, 2009

Finalists will be selected on the basis of an equitable and objective selection process that includes the following general criteria:

- Completion and submittal of the solar site assessment, which will be reviewed by the partner installer, Argand Solar;
- Submittal of the action plan and any supporting materials by the due date;
- Creativity and demonstrated commitment to the program, as evidenced in the action plan;
- Evidence of student involvement in the development of the action plan;
- Commitment to participate in the Energy Challenge, as demonstrated by the solar program coordinator.

ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE

Submit by e-mail (PECSolarSchools@pgnmail.com) or fax (919-546-3444) by October 2, 2009.

Question	Response
<p>How will your school involve students, faculty and staff, promote the solar array installation to the community? It is important to demonstrate as specifically as possible how your approach involves teachers, students and administrators committed to making the installation one of the school's cornerstone learning experiences.</p>	
<p>Name a specific staff member who has been designated "solar program coordinator." Cite qualifications of this staff member to serve as coordinator and specific steps the coordinator will take to maximize the impact of the program. Describe the coordinator's ability to work with administration, facilities personnel, students, teachers, and the community at-large.</p>	
<p>Provide the names of a team of teachers committed to the program and how the solar program coordinator will work with them.</p>	
<p>Will the school's facilities staff be available to oversee the installation of the solar hardware, and will they be responsible for caring for and maintaining the solar hardware? (Schools will be provided with training for facilities personnel and will receive an owner's manual)</p>	
<p>The solar program coordinator should submit a written explanation of why the school needs and deserves a solar installation.</p>	<p>*attach as a separate document</p>



ENERGY CHALLENGE – deadline for finalists to submit is December 4, 2009

Finalist schools will be selected from the pool of applicants, and will be asked to complete an Energy Challenge. Information about the challenge is provided here to help your school plan for participation in the program, and assess the time commitment and resources necessary to complete the assignment.

The schools' Energy Challenge will be submitted by written documentation and video. The projects will be judged in regional competitions. Five schools – four from North Carolina and one from South Carolina – will win a two-kilowatt demonstration-size, solar photovoltaic array valued at more than \$20,000 to be installed on the schools' campus.

An outline of the “Energy Challenge” each finalist school must complete is below. Submittals will be evaluated by a judging panel using a points system.

Get your school engaged

- At least once during the Energy Challenge, a student must give a “Public Service Announcement” on Energy Efficiency tips to students. These messages may be delivered as part of regular school-wide announcements, to a specific classroom, at an assembly, or other format.
- Record one or more of the announcements (either audio or video) and include it with your submittal. Also include a written transcript of the message.
- Winning PSAs will be posted to the Progress Energy SolarSchools web page.

Get your community engaged

- Write a letter (or email) to local elected officials, community leaders, or business leaders in your area to let them know your school has been selected as a finalist; ask them to write a letter on your school's behalf offering their support for the project and explaining why they believe your school should win the solar panels. Include copies of the school's letter(s) and any support letters the school receives.

Get your families, neighbors and friends engaged

- Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy go hand-in-hand. Progress Energy believes it is important not only to pursue alternative energy technologies such as solar power, but to also encourage customers to use energy created by any source responsibly. In this portion of the Energy Challenge, teachers, students and administrators are asked to take home and complete Custom Home Energy Audits (to be provided by Progress Energy) to get the “conservation conversation” started at home.
- Collect as many completed audits as possible and include them as part of your school's submittal. The completed audits will be processed by a third party vendor and a custom report with energy efficiency suggestions for each home will be mailed to customers.

Get your brain engaged

- Progress Energy has a balanced solution strategy to meet our customers' energy needs now and in the future: through energy efficiency, alternative energy, and state-of-the-art power plants. No single component can meet the need, and no single power source can provide power to all customers.
- With this in mind, encourage students to research solar photovoltaic energy and have them record (either audio or video) a discussion or debate-type scenario that includes students representing:
 - 1) the advantages of solar energy
 - 2) the challenges and limitations of solar energy

Tell us why your school should win the solar panels

- Record a video message explaining why your school should win the solar panels and what your school would do with them. In the video, show the judging panel the site that has been selected for the solar array.
- Winning PSAs will be posted to the Progress Energy SolarSchools web page.

Winning schools will be announced on or by December 11, 2009

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