



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City of St. George SunSmart Solar Farm Expands**

**St. George, UT.** – The City of St. George is pleased to announce the expansion of SunSmart, the City’s community owned solar PV facility. The capacity of the plant has increased by 150 kilowatts (kW) to a total capacity of 250 kW.

Funding for the expansion came from three sources, the City of St. George Energy Services Department, Dixie Escalante Electric and a grant from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program. The EECBG program was funded as part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

“The \$190,000 from the EECBG program helped to lower the overall project cost” said Phillip Solomon, City of St. George Energy Services Director.

“A reduction in the cost of solar PV panels also contributed to lowering the cost of the expansion” noted LaDel Laub, General Manger for Dixie Escalante Electric. “This reduction in cost has been passed onto those interested in participating in the solar farm by lowering the unit cost from \$6,000 to \$5,000.

Participation in the project is open to any resident or business within the City of St. George. Participants receive an energy credit monthly for their use of this renewable energy resource.

For more information, contact René Fleming, Conservation Coordinator for the City of St. George at 435-627-4848. Information is also available on the SunSmart website at [www.sgsunsmart.com](http://www.sgsunsmart.com).