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VALLEJO TOP CITY IN NATION FOR SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION

VALLEJO – The City of Vallejo dedicated its fourth solar panel system on Thursday, cutting the ribbon on a 214kw system that will provide up to 80 percent of the energy needed for a nearby water pumping station.

But along with the ribbon cutting, the City also became the number one city in the nation per capita in installed photovoltaic capacity.

“When we made a commitment to renewable energy three years ago, we wanted it to be a strong one,” Vallejo Mayor Tony Intintoli said of the City’s latest distinction. “This is a source of pride for everyone in Vallejo.”

Along with the latest solar panel system, the City has solar panel systems at the Corporation Yard which provides power for the nearby police station; and solar arrays on the roofs of City Hall and the John F. Kennedy Library.

The end result is a capacity to generate 577 kilowatts of electricity at various city-owned structures and facilities. That energy generation is expected to save the City over \$200,000 in energy costs annually.

“This project means a lot of things to the City of Vallejo,” said Cameron “Mac” Moore, BP Solar’s Director of Building Markets. “It means energy savings, it means job creation, and it means a benefit to the environment.”

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District named the City of Vallejo a Clean Air Champion in 2002 for its efforts in the area of solar power and renewable energy efforts.

“It’s an honor to be the top city in the nation in terms of solar energy generation,” said Vallejo City Manager David Martinez. “We’ve partnered with a lot of good companies to make that distinction a reality. We’re committed to renewable energy, and I am sure we’ll have more projects like this in the future.” The city is currently considering placing solar panels atop the roof of Fire Station 7, located on Columbus Parkway next to the just-dedicated solar panel array.