



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MONTEREY CONFERENCE CENTER SOLAR PROJECT WINS
2019 SOLAR BUILDER EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARD
"Best Job by a City Engineer"**

Monterey, CA. – The Monterey Conference Center in July 2019 completed installation of 330 solar panels on the new facility, bringing it a step closer to being designated a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified facility. The solar industry noticed the project - Solar Builder Magazine awarded it the 2019 Solar Builder Editor's Choice Project of the Year, "Best Job by a City Engineer".

The key standout for the judges was the unique and innovative bid parameters. The award notice explained, "The City of Monterey's engineer crafted a metric that rewarded something other than raw lowest cost per watt, as is typical. The formula they used encouraged using the highest quality modules and inverters optimized for the location, resulting in optimized production."

The City awarded the contract to the contractor with the lowest weighted system unit price. This bid requirement values higher efficiency systems and higher density installations to maximize cost effective production.

"We are proud to have creative-thinking, innovative staff who really put the time in to designing projects that are of high quality as well as cost efficient," said Public Works Director Steve Wittry.

(more)

NEWS RELEASE

Andreas Baer, the City's Mechanical Engineer who designed the bid parameters for this project said, "It is important to give weight to the overall value of the system, including the value of land and open space. Factoring opportunity costs into investment decisions allows you to draw the best calculated conclusion of the best system for a given project."

The winning contractor was a local company from Pacific Grove, Applied Solar Energy.

Read the article at solarbuildermag.com/featured/editors-choice-awards-2019/

Check out more facts about the project at monterey.org/Portals/0/FAQs/Solar-Fun-Facts-Cover.png



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