



Immediate Release  
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## SOLAR TOWER FITS ARIZONA BILL

[EnviroMission's](#) Solar Tower technology fits the bill of new rules designed to promote renewable energy, including solar power, in the State of Arizona.

Rules drafted by the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) and approved by the Arizona Attorney General, Terry Goddard, 20 October, 2010, took immediate effect; the Attorney General's announcement follows this company announcement.

The rules now require utilities in Arizona to provide an Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) for an open and comprehensive resource planning process that now requires all types of future power plant resources to be 'fairly considered' providing renewable energy with a more level playing field with fossil fuel generators.

Under the rules utilities will be required to quantify and consider environmental costs associated with using various fuel resources, including water; factors not always taken into account in the power station approval process.

Despite social will and growing interest in the solar energy sector, less than one percent of Arizona's electricity is currently generated from solar power.

Power station viability has tended to be considered in terms of economic viability to favour developments that benefit from previously commercialised technology, regardless of environmental drawbacks. These rules will now factor in aspects that are expected to promote the use of cleaner renewable energy resources in Arizona.

"Arizona's new rules will favourably benefit EnviroMission's Solar Tower 'pipeline development' plans and prospects in Arizona because the environmental benefits of clean waterless solar powered electricity will be advantaged for meeting the States IRP rules.

"Arizona's push to create a level playing field in energy utility planning will support solar entrants, including EnviroMission.

"The fair consideration objective of the rules will now place pressure on fossil fuel generators to cost fuel stock, including water, for the first time" said EnviroMission's Chief Executive Roger Davey.

The rules are intended to attract more solar energy jobs to Arizona and jumpstart the State's 'in-state' solar energy industry.

The Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA)<sup>1</sup> recently approved a landmark Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to buy green electricity from EnviroMission's first Solar Tower planned for development in Arizona; the ACC rule changes are expected to positively impact Solar Tower development in Arizona.

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<sup>1</sup> SCPPA is a California joint power authority consisting of eleven municipal utilities and one irrigation district. Its members deliver electricity to approximately two million metered accounts over 7,000 square miles to a population of nearly five million people.

Solar Tower technology uses solar radiation to heat air to drive turbines to generate clean green emission free electricity that does not use water.

Arizona currently gets 49% of its electricity from coal, 29% from natural gas, 17% from nuclear and 5% from hydro, less than one percent of Arizona's electricity currently comes from solar.

EnviroMission's 100% owned US subsidiary, EnviroMission (USA), Inc is based in Phoenix, Arizona with plans to develop two Solar Tower power stations in the State's North West.

Two land applications for Solar Tower development are filed with the Arizona State Land Department.

The rule changes are important to renewable energy generation forward planning for power generated in Arizona regardless where the power is transmitted.

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### **General and Media Enquires**

Kim Forte (+61414690356)  
General Manager, Communications  
EnviroMission Limited  
Director, EnviroMission (USA), Inc

# Office of Attorney General Terry Goddard



STATE OF ARIZONA  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
1275 W. WASHINGTON STREET  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2926  
[WWW.AZAG.GOV](http://WWW.AZAG.GOV)

MOLLY E. EDWARDS  
PRESS SECRETARY  
PHONE: (602) 542-8019  
CELL PHONE: (602) 725-2200  
[MOLLY.EDWARDS@AZAG.GOV](mailto:MOLLY.EDWARDS@AZAG.GOV)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Terry Goddard Approves New Rules to Promote Renewable Energy in Arizona, Including Solar Power**

(Phoenix, Ariz. – Oct. 20, 2010) Attorney General Terry Goddard today announced that he has approved new rules drafted by the Arizona Corporation Commission that will require utilities to conduct periodic planning of their fuel resource mix and report to the Commission on how they will safely and reliably meet the resource needs of the state.

The rules will require utilities to quantify and consider environmental costs associated with using various fuel resources. Because the environmental cost of using fossil fuels has not previously been factored in, the rules are expected to promote the use of cleaner renewable resources throughout the state, including solar and wind. The new rules take effect immediately.

Goddard has responsibility for making sure that rules adopted by the Commission comport with Arizona law, including the Commission's rate-making authority under Article XV, Section 3 of the Constitution.

The Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) rules provide for an open, comprehensive resource planning process, and require that all types of future power plant resources be fairly considered. The rules allow renewable energy to be considered on a more level playing field with fossil fuels. Arizona currently gets about 49 percent of its electricity from coal, 29 percent from natural gas, 17 percent from nuclear power and 5 percent from hydropower.

Less than one-tenth of 1 percent of Arizona's electricity currently comes from solar power, but as Goddard noted, that is changing quickly.

"These rules will help Arizona bring more solar energy jobs to our sunny state," he said. "Arizona currently sends \$1.5 billion per year to other states to buy natural gas for our power plants. These new rules should help jumpstart our in-state solar energy industry."

Goddard praised the Corporation Commissioners for their unanimous vote to approve the IRP Rules.

“These rules were developed and supported by a broad political spectrum, including both the Commission's “Solar Team” (Democrat Commissioners Paul Newman and Sandra Kennedy) as well as its Republicans (Chairwoman Kristin Mayes and Commissioners Gary Pierce and Bob Stump). I commend them all for their forward-thinking work for Arizona.”

For more information, contact Mika Marquart of the Attorney General’s Office at (602) 542-7714 or Rebecca Wilder of the Arizona Corporation Commission at (602) 542-0844.

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