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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Notice of a Joint Appearance of a Quorum of Commissioners
(Not an Official Meeting of the Arizona Corporation Commission)

When: Friday October 17, 2008
2:00 p.m.

Where: Water Facility
2100 North Hunt Highway
Florence, Arizona

This notice is provided as a courtesy to the public that three or more Commissioners will be present for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the above location. Please see the attachment for more details.

The Commissioners attending this meeting will not vote on any issue or discuss pending legal actions of the Arizona Corporation Commission.

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WATER SYSTEM AT ANTHEM GOES SOLAR

Johnson Utilities is first private water provider in AZ to use renewable energy

FLORENCE, AZ – Anthem at Merrill Ranch, in the Town of Florence, now boasts one of the first solar water plants in Arizona, making it the first residential community served by a private water provider using a renewable energy source. Johnson Utilities, the utility provider for Anthem, has constructed a solar photovoltaic power generation system at its Rancho Sendero Water Plant.

There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the solar generation system on Friday, October 17th, at 2 pm. The location of the ceremony is 2100 North Hunt Highway, in Florence, Arizona.

“The plant will produce approximately 63,000 kilowatt hours per year and supply enough electricity to run existing facilities and more”, said George Johnson, president of the company. “We are always searching for more environmentally efficient methods of doing business.”

The utility company has installed 160 solar panels at the existing Anthem site, using a system that delivers a boost in production of up to 39% more energy than the flat PV panels used in other applications. “The panels actually follow the sun to maximize output, while shade avoidance technology minimizes tracker-to-tracker shading,” Johnson said.

“This project furthers the Town of Florence’s goal of promoting environmentally-conscious projects,” said Himanshu Patel, Town Manager. “Water utilities are not mandated to use renewable energy. That is why this is such a significant step in the right direction.”

The notion of using renewable energy is supported by the Arizona Corporation Commission, which has made strides in encouraging entities to address peak electrical usage through the use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and demand-response.

Johnson Utilities will receive financial incentives from APS based on the amount of electricity the system produces.

“APS has provided more than \$16 million to residential and commercial customers to help increase the amount of renewable energy generated in Arizona,” said Barbara Lockwood, APS’ manager of renewable energy. “By taking advantage of our Renewable Energy Incentive program customers can significantly reduce the cost of adding solar to their home or business.”

When George Johnson was asked why decision was made to install solar, he replied: "We are committed to creating minimal impact on the environment while providing safe, reliable utility services to its customers."

Coupling the passage of the new solar tax credits with the long-term benefits to the environment, Johnson Utilities plans to build more solar generation systems on a larger scale throughout its service territory. The new projects are anticipated to be up to 60 times as large.

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