## **Tessera Solar's Calico Solar Project**

**Toward a safe, renewable energy future:** Tessera Solar's Calico Solar Project is the 5th large-scale solar energy project ever approved on U.S. public lands.

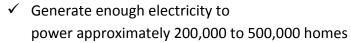
## **VITALS**

**Location:** San Bernardino County, CA **Technology:** Solar Dish (SunCatcher) **Electricity production capacity:** 663.5

megawatts

**Company:** Tessera Solar (Texas)

## BY THE NUMBERS - the project is expected to:



- ✓ Create 400 construction jobs and 136 permanent jobs
- ✓ Generate \$650,000 annually in tax benefits paid to San Bernardino County
- ✓ Secure approximately \$1.75 billion through DOE's Recovery Act loan guarantee program
- ✓ Be located on 4,604 acres. The BLM oversees more than 5.9 million acres in San Bernardino County, including over 3.8 million for conservation.

A SMART, COLLABORATIVE PROCESS: In April of 2009 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) committed to helping the nation reach its clean energy future by guaranteeing coordinated, focused processing, full environmental analysis and public review for specific renewable energy projects where the companies involved had demonstrated they were ready to advance to the formal environmental review and public participation process.

A UNIQUE, INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP: On October 12, 2009 Secretary Salazar and Governor Schwarzenegger signed an agreement directing Interior agencies and California State agencies to create a federal-state initiative to advance development of environmentally appropriate renewable energy on U.S. lands in California. The Calico Solar Project is one of the projects currently being jointly processed through the BLM and the California Energy Commission (CEC) cooperative model. The CEC's Siting Committee recommended approval of the project on September 25, 2010, and a hearing before the Commission has been set for October 28, 2010.



**STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND MITIGATION:** The BLM worked closely with federal, state and local partners, members of the environmental and conservation community and interested stakeholders to advance environmentally sound projects.

- ✓ Smaller footprint: The project size was significantly reduced from 8,230 acres to 4,604 acres to address concerns regarding habitat for desert tortoises.
- ✓ Plant Mitigation: Specially designated Environmentally Sensitive Areas will be established on site to protect sensitive plant species.
- ✓ Alternative Habitat: Tessera Solar is providing funding to the BLM for more than 10,000 acres of desert tortoise and Mojave fringe-toed lizard habitat to mitigate the project's impacts.

**ANOTHER RECOVERY ACT LEGACY:** The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) has served as an opportunity to transform the way we use energy, reducing our carbon emissions and create entire new industries based on America's resources, America's ingenuity, and America's workers. Through the Recovery Act's payments in lieu of tax credits for specified energy program, Tessera Solar can apply for payments of up to 30% of the eligible costs of the Calico Solar project – about \$600 million. These payments are authorized by Section 1603 of the ARRA tax title.

THE BIG PICTURE: The Calico Solar Project is one of the projects that will help achieve the Administration and Interior initiative to make a rapid and responsible move to large-scale production of renewable energy on public lands. The State of California is working to achieve a 33% Renewable Portfolio Standard, which will require 15,000 – 20,000 MW of renewable energy by 2020.