



SOLAR ENERGY

(HELPS POWER YOUR SCHOOL)



California Solar Center Solar Schoolhouse

Educational Initiatives from The Rarus Institute January 2006



To learn more go to www.solarschoolhouse.org

Funding for this informational poster was provided by
the California Energy Commission.

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history

- Rachus Institute founded in 1998
- Non-profit organization
- PV program support - 1998
- California Solar Center – 2000
- California Photovoltaic Utility Mgrs WG
- Solar e-Clips – online newsletter
- Solar Schoolhouse – 2001 to present



California Solar Center



- www.californiasolarcenter.org
- Portal for information on California Solar Industry since 2001
- Solar e-Clips – electronic newsletter
- Solar Forums
- Legislative & regulatory information
- Financial incentives



CSC next

- New website
- Bring back Solar e-Clips news
- More consumer focused information
- Online video tutorials



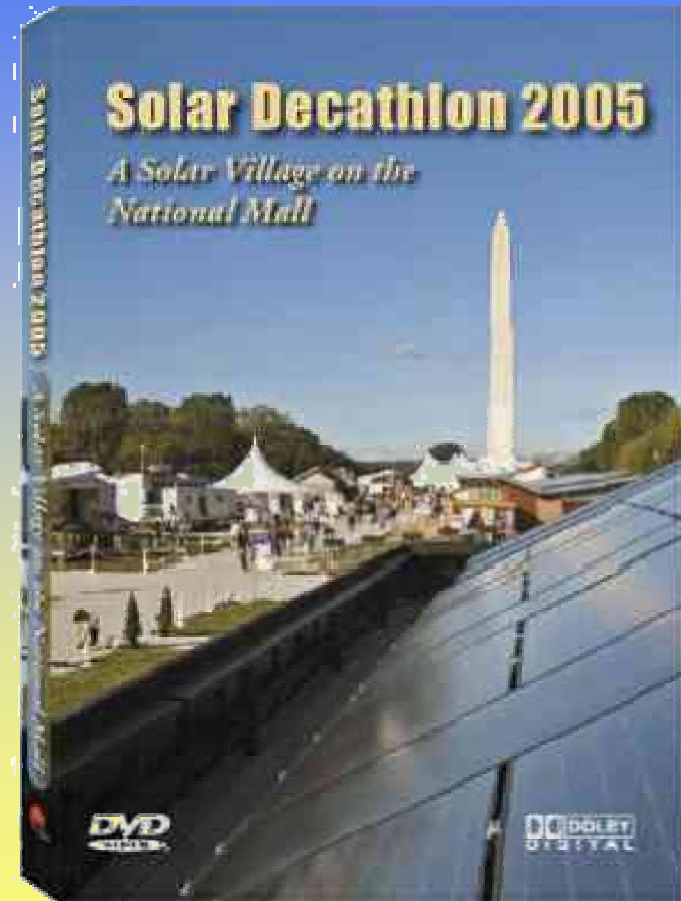
Rahus

- **Displays**
 - Solar Dome Kiosk
 - From Space to Earth banner/posters
- **Video/film**
 - Solar Decathlon
 - Your Solar Home
 - Intro to Solar



Solar Decathlon

- Documentary film and book



Film preview

Solar Schoolhouse mission

- To raise the bar on energy literacy through hands-on, project-oriented learning.



Solar Schoolhouse

- Teacher Workshops
- Summer Institute for Educators – 5 day
- Solar Schoolhouse Olympics
- 'Your Solar Home' DVD & Guidebook
- 'Solar Decathlon' DVD & Book
- Solar Cell Classroom Sets
- Grid-tie installations + online Data
- Special projects – ROP class training

Not just PV – thermal, passive design incl.



Partners

- SMUD
- SMA
- Lodi Electric
- Palo Alto
- Imperial Irrigation District
- City of Anaheim
- Pasadena W&P
- SVP
- MWD
- Solar Energy Intl
- Fat Spaniel Techn.
- ...YOU?



No-boundaries

- The subject is not limited by geography, thus the program isn't either.
- Started in California, now expanding beyond.
 - ~ 40 schools now on the online data network from all over the country (FST)



Strong Connections

- High School Vocational Classes (ROP)
 - Brawley, Calipatria
- Outdoor School (aka science camp 4-6 gr)
 - Camp Arroyo, Sly Park, Mission Springs, etc.
- Environmental Clubs – becoming Solar Clubs
 - Lodi (Victor ES), Anaheim
- Special Academies – eg. Arcata CEDAR
- Environmental Science (HS)



Exploring new connections

- Relevant, real world topic
 - Climate change, global warming, petroleum, energy...
- Solar Energy provides a path to solutions



Kids Environmental Action Network

- By kids, for kids
- The Solar Decathlon interviews
- Website: Reviews, project info sharing.



Workforce Development



PV Design & Install workshops

- SEI – Solar Energy International
- IBEW
- Bill Brooks – Brooks Engineering
- Solar Living Institute
- Community College(s) – Diablo Valley College



Community College

- **Diablo Valley College**
- PV Courses
- **Future development of Energy courses at CCs throughout California.**
- **Looking for instructors**
- **Funding available from State to help develop**



ROP

- Regional Occupational Program
 - Eg. Brawley High School Construction Class



Ref.
youtube
video

www.solarschoolhouse.org

How to get involved?

- Sponsor 1 or more educators to attend Solar Schoolhouse Summer institute.
- Adopt a school – offer field trips to your solar home, etc.
- Run a Solar Schoolhouse Olympics in your town.
- Guest speaker at local school(s)
- Host a Movie Night in your town – 'Solar Decathlon'



Your ideas?...talk with Tor

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