

# COACHELLA VALLEY HOUSING COALITION

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## Press Release

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: December 20, 2010**

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### **The Coachella Valley Housing Coalition Partners with Renova Energy to Install PV Solar Panels at Wolff Waters Place in La Quinta**

**Wolff Waters Place  
47795 Dune Palms Road  
La Quinta, CA**

**La Quinta, Calif.** – The Coachella Valley Housing Coalition’s (CVHC) Wolff Waters Place Apartments in the City of La Quinta, a Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) Gold and Silver certified community, is set to receive further energy efficiencies with the installation of solar photovoltaic panels on its carport system. The system will be installed by Renova Energy Corp. the largest locally owned and operated commercial and residential solar integrator in the Coachella Valley.

The 174-kW solar project at Wolff Waters Place is the first system for nonprofit housing developer CVHC, but one in a series of solar panel system installations CVHC has planned for its housing in the Coachella Valley.

“Energy efficiency and green design features are vital in our efforts to keep utility and overhead costs low for our low and very low income residents,” said John Mealey Executive Director of CVHC, “Solar PV panels at Wolff Waters Place make sense for our developments, for our residents and for the environment.”

“The Coachella Valley Housing Coalition set out to build an affordable housing development that truly served the needs of its future occupants,” said MaryAnn Ybarra, Project Manager. “Incorporating green features ensures affordability without draining precious resources.”

“I applaud the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition for undertaking this project to help provide a greener future with clean energy, while at the same time, taking advantage of the incentives and opportunities that exist while saving precious energy dollars,” added Vincent Battaglia, CEO of Renova. “They are setting an example for the many other non profits which will inevitably follow.”

Renova executives estimate that the use of solar energy at Wolff Waters Place will save the organization more than \$32,000 annually in electricity costs.

Built in partnership with the City of La Quinta, the County of Riverside, Citibank, Wells Fargo Bank and the National Equity Fund, the 218-unit Wolff Waters Place Apartments was completed in December 2009 to serve the ever-growing housing needs of the City.

Wolff Waters Place is named in memory of La Quinta's first Mayor Fred Wolff and socially-minded local businessman Alan Waters. Both are former CVHC board members who have passed away.

The development consists of attractive and affordable one- to four-bedroom garden apartments and townhouses. Units range in size from 650 to 1,376 square feet. Open floor plans within the units and building placement throughout the complex ensure maximum open space for the needs of the families served by the complex. Large courtyards are designed around building openings, providing tenants with plush grassy areas, communal benches and barbecues, and play structures for the kids. Residents can enjoy one of three tot lots, a community swimming pool, laundry facilities, and a basketball play area.

Designed by the award-winning Palm Springs architectural firm, Interactive Design Corporation, Wolff Waters Place is Santa Barbara inspired with smooth stucco finishes and red tile roofs. The community building houses a day care center, computer lab, meeting rooms, and the pool and spa area.

The development involves a collaboration of local, state and national partners including La Quinta's Redevelopment Agency, Citibank, Wells Fargo Bank, State of California Multi-Family Housing Program, the Riverside County Economic Development Agency, the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee, the California Department of Housing and Community Development, and the California Municipal Finance Authority. The tax credit investor is Chicago-based National Equity Fund.

The general contractor is Brown Construction, Inc. Locally-based MSA Consulting is the civil engineer.

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#### **About CVHC**

Located in Indio, California, about one hundred miles east of Los Angeles, the Coachella Valley Housing Coalition (CVHC) is an award-winning non-profit housing development corporation dedicated to helping low and very-low income families improve their living conditions through advocacy, research, construction, and operation of housing and community development projects. CVHC has constructed more than 3,800 homes and apartments for low-income households in Riverside and Imperial Counties. In addition, CVHC has developed childcare centers, after-school programs and computer technology centers. It operates various services for its tenants and others including Ballet Folklorico and mariachi classes, English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes, an art program, and tennis and recreational programs. For more information, visit [www.cvhc.org](http://www.cvhc.org)

#### **About Renova**

Renova Energy Corporation is the largest locally owned and operated commercial and residential solar integrator in the Coachella Valley, offering design, financing and maintenance of solar installation. Located in GreenZone in Palm Desert, Renova also operates the Renova Energy Academy, training area residents with classes in primary and advanced solar installation techniques and related subjects. More information can be found at [www.RenovaEnergy.org](http://www.RenovaEnergy.org)