

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**May 20, 2009
Page 1 of 2**

Media Contact: Sarah Helmer
APS Energy Services
602.744.5023 Office
602.790.6926 Cell
www.apses.com

Mike Aylstock
Sedona – Oak Creek Unified School District
928.204.6500 District Office
www.sedona.k12.az.us

**SEDONA – OAK CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT HOSTS
SOLAR DEDICATION & RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**
(Installation believed to be the largest on any public K12 site in the State of Arizona)

SEDONA, AZ – The demand for renewable energy sources continues to rise as technologies improve and utility rates continue to increase. This solar installation is part of a larger conservation effort underway throughout the Sedona – Oak Creek Unified School District to lead by example and encourage others to look for sustainable alternatives, all while saving over 155,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) annually.

The Sedona – Oak Creek Unified School District today hosted a solar dedication and ribbon cutting for the Big Park Community School 100 kilowatt (kW) Solar Photovoltaic Installation. This installation, made up of over 790 solar laminate panels, will generate up to 100kW of electricity and result in an annual kilowatt hour (kWh) reduction of over 155,000 kWh. Translated, this savings is equal to 111 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) – the equivalent of the annual greenhouse gas emissions from 20.4 passenger vehicles.

"This project is truly an example of 'walking the talk'." said Mike Aylstock, District Superintendent. "It is our goal to implement future energy conservation and renewable projects to set an example for our students and encourage the community that a sustainable future is attainable."

Through a partnership with APS Energy Services, the solar installation is part of a larger energy conservation project being implemented throughout the District that includes comprehensive lighting retrofits, including skylights for daylighting; replacement of heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) units to higher efficiency alternatives; a District-wide energy management and controls system; and water conservation. The result of these measures will provide an annual total cost avoidance of over \$160,000 (includes an annual solar rebate provided by Arizona Public Service).

"The price for social responsibility and protecting our environment with sustainable energy sources can be significant." said Bob Georgeoff, APS Energy Services' Managing Director. "Fortunately, by combining the solar generation project with more traditional energy reduction improvements, the District is able to realize the benefits of a comprehensive project that includes renewable generation, all while meeting their payback requirements".

This project is the most recent in a line of projects that include classroom additions, renovations and energy improvements that will total over \$73 million and take place over three phases. Managing these is the well respected ARCADIS project management firm based in Tempe.

The Sedona – Oak Creek Unified School District is committed to enhancing Sedona's educational and cultural resources for all, while placing a major emphasis on energy conservation.

APS Energy Services

Headquartered in Tempe, AZ, APS Energy Services is the full-services energy services subsidiary of Pinnacle West Capital Corporation (NYSE:PNW) and has completed energy efficiency and renewable projects throughout the Southwest. For more information about APS Energy Services, please visit their webpage at www.apses.com.

ARCADIS

ARCADIS is an international company providing consultancy, design engineering and management services in infrastructure, environment and buildings, to enhance mobility, sustainability and quality of life. ARCADIS develops, designs, implements, maintains and operates projects for companies and governments. With more than 14,000 employees and over €1.7 billion in gross revenue, the company has an extensive international network that is supported by strong local market positions. For more information, visit www.arcadis-global.com.