

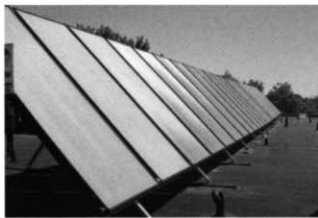
## Philadelphia Solar Project Points Way to Job Creation, Energy Cost Savings, More Energy Security if Congress Passes Bi-Partisan American Power Act

Area clean energy business and government leaders literally shouted from the rooftops in northeast Philadelphia to tout a local solar project as an example of how the proposed American Power Act, creating a national policy supporting renewable, American energy would lead to jobs, energy cost savings, and more energy security for Pennsylvania and the nation.



Alan & Jan Rushforth with Alan & Frank Lindy & Carolyn Hirsch at Fountain Gardens

This Solar Hot Water project consists of 24, 4x10-foot solar panels installed by Rushforth Solar, LLC, of Bryn Mawr, Delaware County, on the roof of the Fountain Garden Apartments on Welsh Road in northeast Philadelphia. Company officials believe it is the largest apartment building Solar Hot Water project in the Philadelphia area at over 100 feet long.



"This project supported jobs at our company and for our suppliers, and is substantially cutting energy costs for this large apartment building," said Jan Marie Rushforth of Rushforth Solar. "By harnessing clean renewable energy available right here in Pennsylvania, we also help reduce the money we send abroad to buy fossil fuels."

The American Power Act is a bi-partisan proposal sponsored by U.S. Senators John Kerry/ (D) Massachusetts, Lindsey Graham/(R) South Carolina, and Joe Lieberman/ (I) Connecticut. It would place a gradually declining cap on dangerous carbon emissions by fossil fuel power plants and a few large industrial emitters, though more than 98 percent of U.S. companies would not be regulated. Polluters would pay a price, set by the open market, on the carbon they do emit. This would lead to more use of renewable energy as power plants and other companies reduce their carbon emissions. A portion of the fee polluters pay for carbon emissions would be returned to consumers to help pay their energy costs.

"A large Solar Hot Water system like this saves energy, saves emissions, and is a step in the right direction. Doing a lot more projects like this would spur the economy and be good for the environment;" said Alan Rushforth, President of Rushforth Solar. "The scientists are saying we have no time to lose in weaning ourselves from fossil fuel. No informed person can ignore the damage from dirty coal and oil. Even natural gas involves fracturing and polluting water tables in PA, so all fossil fuels have harmful impacts. This bill would encourage conservation, clean renewable energy, reductions in carbon emissions, and would be a good step in the right direction." The Rushforths noted suppliers, such as Hickory Ridge Radiant, and Weinstein Supply, would see more demand from solar installers which could lead to more local hiring.

Alan Lindy, Lindy Property Management said: "I found Jan Marie and Alan Rushforth to be exceptionally professional, thorough and a pleasure to work with. I am already registered for our next community, a 100 apartments in South Philadelphia, part of the larger Gateway Tower community. For both Fountain Gardens and for Gateway Towers, I am projecting a savings of 50% of our gas consumption to heat hot water and a payback period before 6-8 years, maybe less."

Fountain Gardens apartment complex is projected to save approximately \$12,613 per year to heat water in the building with the solar system and high efficiency heaters. The cost of the installation totaled \$115,500. Federal subsidies covered 30 percent of the solar cost, or \$32,550; a Pennsylvania Sunshine Program subsidy paid another \$20,000; and a Sustainable Development Fund subsidy funded \$3,850. This brought the actual cost to the business to \$59,100. With the projected energy cost savings, this project should pay for itself in just 5.1 years. Even without subsidies, the payback time would have been 9.3 years. The lower operating costs also will increase the building's property value by an estimated \$168,000.



"Lindy Properties deserves acknowledgement for being a green leader in their field. With the implementation of the American Power Act, we would expect to see more such projects to become more prevalent and main stream" said Jan Rushforth. "It would mean more jobs locally, help businesses and homeowners lower their energy costs, and help Americans take control of our energy future, by keeping more of our energy dollars at home. In a world where we mourn the fallen Coal Miners in West Virginia and face 5,000 barrels of oil per day still gushing into the Gulf of Mexico, it's comforting to promote clean green Solar Hot Water."



Guests assemble on the rooftop at Fountain Gardens for the presentation

Energy Institute of America figures show Pennsylvanians spend about \$10 billion a year on foreign energy. Rushforth Solar called on Pennsylvania senators Arlen Specter and Robert Casey, Jr., to support the American Power Act, and urged Senate leaders to bring the bill before the full Senate as quickly as possible.

## Lindy Properties is a Going Green Leader

**The biggest apartment building Solar Hot Water project in the Greater Philadelphia Area – designed & installed by Rushforth Solar LLC**

Lindy Properties is a "Going Green Leader" among Apartment Association of Greater Philadelphia owners and managers. Lindy has invested in Solar Hot Water for Fountain Gardens on Welsh Road in North East Philadelphia. Rushforth Solar LLC designed and installed the 24 panel Solar Hot Water system, which is the biggest known project on an apartment building in the Greater Philadelphia Area. The rooftop panels are over 100 feet long and the 4,800 gallon storage tank is over 12½ feet in diameter and 6½ feet high.

The annual savings for this Fountain Gardens system are expected to be around \$12,600 with an unusually low 5 year pay back. Over 41 tons of CO<sup>2</sup> are expected to be saved per year. The system is sized to reduce just shy of 8,000 CCF of fossil fuel each year including savings with new high efficiency heaters.

Rushforth Solar LLC received a Penn Future Green Power Pioneer award and was the only solar thermal company to earn a TRF/ Sustainable Development Fund Incentive Grant. Alan Rushforth is a NABCEP certified solar thermal installer™ and he spoke at a



**Jan and Alan Rushforth join Alan Lindy, Carolyn Kennedy and members of Lindy Property Management**

national solar conference on Solar Hot Water.

"Subsidies for Solar Hot Water are up to 55% and may be at their best," said Jan Marie Rushforth, Partner at Rushforth Solar. "Solar Hot Water qualifies for a Federal Investment Tax Credit of 30% and PA state subsidies up to 25% (capped at \$20,000.)"

Good building candidates for Solar Hot Water have a central hot water system that uses lots of hot water year round. When there is a good building fit, Solar Hot Water is a proven technology that is a great investment: it saves fuel costs, reduces Net Operating Income, increases building value, and provides the satisfaction and cache of doing something good for the environment. More info on Solar Hot Water at [www.RushforthSolar.com](http://www.RushforthSolar.com) or [Jan@RushforthSolar.com](mailto:Jan@RushforthSolar.com)

Commenting on his Solar Hot Water project, Alan Lindy of Lindy Property Management said: "Solar panels at Fountains Gardens offered a unique combination of a quick payback period, doing good for the environment, taking a lead on renewal energy sources and offering Lindy Property Management a positive, cutting edge exposure."

*I have known Jan and Alan for almost twenty years and have tremendous faith in their integrity, competence and thoroughness. Alan's technical expertise allowed him to represent data, without hype and/or exaggeration, and without twisting numbers. Both Jan and Alan were a true pleasure to work with. I look forward to our next project together."*

Fountain Gardens is a quiet and friendly apartment community featuring many upgrades: elevator service, welcoming lobbies and lighted hallways. Amenities include a beautiful landscaped courtyard and off-street parking; located close to public transportation, shopping, major highways and entertainment – and Solar Hot Water.

**For more information on Lindy Properties go to [www.lindyproperty.com](http://www.lindyproperty.com)**



**As published in "The APTS" – April 2010 edition**

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April 2010  
Volume 1 - Issue VII

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