

Aug. 15, 2014

Dear Neighbor,

The Santa Clara Valley Water District believes in having a reliable, sustainable and cost effective energy source as it conducts the businesses of providing you with safe and clean drinking water.

As part of that philosophy and our Energy Optimization Plan, the water district will install solar panels at the Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant to help generate a new source of clean energy to reduce our carbon footprint. The Penitencia Water Treatment Plant in north San Jose will also have solar panels installed at the same time.

Work at Santa Teresa will begin in the Fall with the mobilization of equipment and crew. Our contractor will utilize some of the available ground and hillside on the west side of the treatment plant to build ground-mount fixed tilt arrays. The panels are not near any residential homes.

The project will take about four months to complete, concluding in Spring 2015. The work will take place weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. We expect minimal noise and traffic impact.

If you have any concerns during the work, please contact your neighborhood liaison, Public Information Representative Tony Mercado, at 408-630-2342. You can also reach him via email at tmercado@valleywater.org.

Since 2001, the water district has made moves to harvest clean, reliable energy, installing solar panels on the roof of our administration building and a solar carport in our headquarters parking lot that also provides electric vehicle recharging stations.

Solar power is clearly one of the most important solutions to the global warming crisis and key to our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2020.

Regards,

Christopher Method
Plant Supervisor
Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant

