

CASE STUDY BERKELEY BOWL WEST COMMERCIAL



PV System Size	111.3 kW DC
PV Equipment	636 Sharp 175
Monitoring	Fat Spaniel
Est. First Year Production	157,247 kWh
Est. CO ² Avoided	244,593 lbs/year
Electricity Bill Offset	11%

THE PROJECT STORY – GREENING THE GROCERY

Grocery stores are notoriously energy intensive and the Berkeley Bowl is no exception. As such, they requested help in greening their first new construction project. Berkeley Bowl followed the best green building practices such as utilizing the most efficient refrigeration and lighting units available, sourcing building materials locally, and integrating renewable energy into the build out. This sustainable design ethic fits their mission and speaks to the values of their clientele. The end result is a grocery store that uses significantly less energy than most operating today.



“While green operations are definitely the ‘in thing’ in the Bay Area, they are also feasible – in part, because of California’s Solar Initiative and PG&E’s solar rebates. The burgeoning number of small businesses going green, and the government’s increasingly-available rebates to help them do so, signals the sustainability movement’s growing momentum.” - TriplePundit, 2009

THE SUN LIGHT & POWER SOLUTION

SLP designed and built a 111.3 kW system to address the grocery store’s significant energy needs. In order to meet the company’s capital requirements the system was specifically sized so the up-front incentive - capped by PG&E’s rebate program at 100kW - could be earned all in the first year. As a result, the system offsets only a small portion of the total load but is still generating the amount of power used by approximately 30 Berkeley households annually. This installation was not only completed on time, but a change in module manufacturer resulted in a better price for the client while still maintaining system production.



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CASE STUDY

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“The building’s energy requirements include lighting and extensive power demands from refrigeration and other electrical needs. Some of this energy usage is also related to a new emphasis on ready-to-eat foods, including a second-floor kitchen with a flash freezer.”
- Progressive Grocer



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Every year this system removes the equivalent of over 23 cars from the road, or prevents 12,438 gallons of gasoline from being burned. It would require 90.9 acres of forest to sequester this much CO2 annually.

FINANCIAL BENEFITS

The solar PV system at Berkeley Bowl West will provide clean energy for years to come and is expected to generate \$20,806 in annual savings.

This project is also received \$167,029 in rebates from the California Solar Initiative.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Berkeley Bowl is an independent, full-service supermarket committed to bringing you the highest quality groceries at the lowest possible prices. They carry a wide array of organic and natural foods, conventional groceries and everyday items. They first opened in 1977 as a small neighborhood market. In June of 2009, the second store, Berkeley Bowl West, opened in a new modern building at 9th & Heinz Ave. Learn more at www.berkeleybowl.com

SUN LIGHT & POWER PROFILE

Passionate people tend to get very good at what they do. With 36 years of experience as a leader and pioneer in the solar industry, Sun Light & Power provides the highest possible design, engineering, and installation expertise for solar electric and thermal energy needs and places high value on lasting customer relationships.



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