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## News Archive

# First-ever solar-coal project is running

June 29, 2010

DENVER – Xcel Energy is now operating a first of its kind demonstration of a hybrid solar-coal approach, using parabolic-trough solar technology integrated with a coal-fired power plant. The project, located at Xcel Energy’s Cameo Generating Station near Grand Junction, Colo., is designed to increase the plant’s efficiency, decrease the use of coal, test the commercial viability of concentrating solar power thermal integration, and lower carbon dioxide emissions. Abengoa Solar developed the parabolic-trough technology, which concentrates solar energy to provide heat for producing supplemental steam for electric power production.

"We are very excited about getting this unique renewable energy project on line," said Kent Larson, vice president and chief energy supply officer for Xcel Energy. "If this project produces the successful results we expect, this type of solar thermal integration will help move the use of solar energy one step closer to being a potential technology for improving the environmental performance of coal-fired power plants for Xcel Energy and for utilities around the country."

"We are pleased to work with Xcel Energy on this important innovative clean technology project. We believe that the solar approach being implemented at Cameo will provide a cost effective way of delivering solar energy," said Santiago Seage, Abengoa Solar CEO.

The project is the first under Xcel Energy’s new Innovative Clean Technology Program, an initiative to test promising new technologies with potential to lower greenhouse gas emissions and result in other environmental improvements. Through the ICT Program, the company can pursue the development, commercialization and deployment of new power generation, energy storage and other technologies that support its clean energy strategy. It provides the opportunity to test these technologies and evaluate their cost, reliability and environmental performance at a demonstration scale before determining whether they should be deployed more widely for Colorado customers.

Customers can log on to where they will find more information and video of the project. They will also learn more about Xcel Energy’s commitment to the environment by choosing the environment page under the company tab.

Xcel Energy (NYSE: XEL) is a major U.S. electricity and natural gas company that provides a comprehensive portfolio of energy-related products and services to 3.3 million electricity customers and 1.8 million natural gas customers through its regulated operating companies in eight Western and Midwestern states. Company headquarters are located in Minneapolis. More information is available at [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com)

Abengoa Solar focuses its activities on the development and application of technology for generating electrical power with the sun ([www.abengoasolar.com](http://www.abengoasolar.com)). Abengoa is a technology company that applies innovative solutions for sustainability in the infrastructure, environmental and energy sectors. The company is listed on the Spanish stock exchange and is present in more than 70 countries, in which it operates through its five Business Units. They are Solar, Bioenergy, Environmental Services, Information Technologies and Industrial Engineering and Construction. More information is available at ([www.abengoa.com](http://www.abengoa.com)).

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