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For Immediate Release

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Public Workshops Highlight Solar

Community Environmental Council shows the community how easy it is to go solar.

Santa Barbara, CA, May 9, 2011 – The Community Environmental Council (CEC) will be holding free community workshops in May and June across South County Santa Barbara to help homeowners go solar through their new program: Solarize Santa Barbara. The first of these workshops will be on May 17 from 6:30-8:00pm at the Santa Barbara Unitarian Society, 1535 Santa Barbara Street.

Solarize Santa Barbara workshops cover the basics of energy efficiency and solar, with experts on hand to answer questions. Highlights include:

- Introduction to energy efficiency: saving energy costs less than producing energy
- Basics of solar energy: powering your house with the sun
- Financing solar: exploring options
- Solarize Santa Barbara: making it easier and cheaper to go solar

These introductory workshops will explain how energy efficiency and solar work, discuss different options for going solar, and provide an introduction to CEC's new Solarize Santa Barbara program. Workshops are free and open to anyone interested in participating in this community-based project. Workshops will be held:

May 17, 2011

6:30-8:00pm

Unitarian Society, 1535 Santa Barbara Street

June 1, 2011

6:30-8:00pm

Carpinteria Women's Club, 1059 Vallecito Road

June 7, 2011

6:30-8:00pm

Goleta Community Center, 5679 Hollister Avenue

Solar SUNday

July 17, 2011

Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol

About Solarize Santa Barbara

“Solarize Santa Barbara” is a group purchasing discount program for homeowners in Southern Santa Barbara County who want to go solar. The program will be available for three months, May 1, 2011 through July 31, 2011 and during this time South Santa Barbara County residents (those who live in Southern California Edison territory) will be able to purchase solar at a set price, from two local installers: Sun Pacific Solar Electric and REC Solar. After a rigorous application process, the CEC selected REC Solar and Sun Pacific Solar Electric based on their experience, quality and price and because they are giving homeowners the best solar systems at the best value.

About the Community Environmental Council

The Community Environmental Council is forty-one year old environmental non-profit focused on energy efficiency and renewable energy, sustainable transportation, peak oil and climate change. Our goal is to end our region’s dependency on fossil fuels in one generation – Fossil Free by 2033.

Website: www.cecsb.org

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If you’d like more information about this topic or to schedule an interview, please call Megan Birney at 805/963-0583 x107 or email mbirney@cecmail.org.