

*Bill will head to President Obama to be signed into law*

*May 7, 2012*

*Washington, D.C.* – Today, the Senate version of Congressman Jerry McNerney’s Tracy land conveyance bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill, which addresses a 14-year-old bureaucratic problem, will allow the City of Tracy to use the property on Schulte Road for a renewable energy project. The bill will now proceed to President Obama to be signed into law.

“I welcomed this opportunity to work in a bipartisan way to pass commonsense legislation. I have been fighting for the City of Tracy on this issue from the beginning, and I am proud that we were able to come together to pass this bill,” said Rep. McNerney.

“The nearly 200 jobs that will be created by the Tracy solar energy project will help get our local economy growing again. Investing in initiatives that will bring jobs to our region is one of the highest priorities that we have, and my bill will bring us one step closer to that reality,” continued Rep. McNerney.

The City of Tracy wants to purchase government land on Schulte Road for use as the site of a solar electricity-generation project. The 200-acre property was previously conveyed to the City of Tracy by Congress with the condition that most of the land be used for recreational or educational purposes. This provision caused the project to be held up for years. McNerney’s bill waives any remaining restrictions on the land’s use once it is purchased by the city. Tracy officials estimate that construction of the project will bring nearly 200 jobs to San Joaquin County.

“Congressman McNerney has been fighting for the solar project from day one. The bill is now just one short step away from making the solar energy project a reality, and I thank the Congressman for his continued advocacy on behalf of the City of Tracy. I appreciate the bi-partisan efforts with Congressman Denham and support on this important issue for Tracy. The Tracy solar project will have significant economic benefits, and in these economic times,

nearly 200 jobs would be very welcome in our community,” said Mayor Brent Ives, City of Tracy.

The Senate version of McNerney’s bill, S. 1302, already passed the Senate. McNerney’s bill was originally introduced in the House as H.R. 2406.