

Tracy solar energy project will create nearly 200 local jobs

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*Washington, D.C.* – Congressman Jerry McNerney's Tracy solar energy bill was signed into law by the president. Congressman McNerney has been advocating for this project from its inception in 2008, championing legislation to allow the City of Tracy to use the property on Schulte Road for a renewable energy project. The bill fixes a 14-year old bureaucratic problem that was preventing the Tracy solar project from moving forward.

"The City of Tracy will now be able to build a solar energy project that will create nearly 200 local jobs. I welcomed this opportunity to reach across the aisle to pass this commonsense bill, especially in the current climate in Washington. 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 jobs that will be created by the Tracy solar energy project will help get our local economy moving, putting real people back to work. 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. This is a great day for the City of Tracy," 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.

"I'm thrilled that the City of Tracy will be able to embark on the solar project along Schulte Road. On behalf of the City of Tracy, I thank Congressman McNerney for his advocacy. He has been fighting for the solar project from day one. He worked in a bipartisan manner with his colleague,

Rep. Jeff Denham, to make this project a reality. The Tracy solar energy project will benefit our local economy, creating nearly 200 much-needed jobs,” said Mayor Brent Ives, City of Tracy.