

Site Secured for US Solar Power Demonstration Facility

10th April, 2012

Solar Systems Pty Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Silex Systems Ltd (“Silex”) (ASX: SLX), announced it has secured a site in Beaumont, California for the construction of its first Concentrating Photovoltaic (CPV) solar power demonstration facility in the USA.

The grid-connected facility of up to 1 megawatt (MW) capacity will showcase the operational performance of Solar Systems’ proprietary ‘Dense Array’ CPV solar conversion system in anticipation of near-term deployment in the burgeoning US solar market.

Silex CEO Dr Michael Goldsworthy said, “Securing the Beaumont site is another significant step forward in the commercialisation of Solar Systems’ unique ‘Dense Array’ CPV technology. The Beaumont facility will allow potential US customers to observe and measure the performance of the ‘Dense Array’ CPV system first hand.”

“We are excited about the commercial potential of this technology in the US market, which is expected to grow strongly over the next decade and beyond,” he added.

The 10 acre site, located approximately 130 kilometres east of Los Angeles in Riverside County and only 30 minutes’ drive from Palm Springs airport, will be leased from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California, the largest water utility in the US. The lease is subject to the successful completion of a geo-technical survey and environmental assessment.

The costs of the facility will be primarily funded internally but is expected to be eligible for the US Federal Government’s Renewables Income Tax Credit Scheme, which could account for up to 30% of the capital costs.

Construction of the facility is subject to permitting activities, and is planned for completion by mid-2013 (CY). The power plant will be grid connected and is expected to generate a small revenue stream through a Power Purchase Agreement soon to be negotiated with the local power utility Southern California Edison.

Solar Systems’ CPV ‘Dense Array’ technology is ideally suited to large utility-scale deployment, especially in regions such as the western half of the US, where the direct normal incidence (DNI) of solar radiation is very high. The unique advantages of this technology include the use of advanced ‘multiple-junction’ solar cells currently capable of operating at over 40% conversion efficiency – approximately double the efficiency of today’s best silicon-based cells, and the use of active cooling to maximize power output and lifetime performance from the solar cells.

With a strong focus on renewable energy sources and a potentially carbon-constrained economy, the US is a key target market for the Company.

Further information on the Company's activities can be found on the Silex website: www.silex.com.au or by contacting the persons listed below.

Contacts: Michael Goldsworthy or Julie Ducie on (02) 9532 1331.

Media: Alan Jury or David Akers on (02) 8298 6100.



Beaumont CPV Demonstration Facility Site (with grid connection point in foreground)

Forward Looking Statements and Business Risks:

Silex Systems is a research and development Company whose assets are its proprietary rights in various technologies, including, but not limited to, the SILEX technology, the SilexSolar technology and business, Solar Systems technology and business, Translucent technology and ChronoLogic technology. Several of the Company's technologies are in the development stage and have not been commercially deployed, and therefore are high-risk. Accordingly, the statements in this announcement regarding the future of the Company's technologies and commercial prospects are forward looking and actual results could be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward looking statements as a result of various risk factors.

Some risk factors that could affect future results and commercial prospects include, but are not limited to: results from the SILEX uranium enrichment development program and the demand for enriched uranium; the business risks associated with SilexSolar's manufacturing and marketing activities; the risks associated with the development of Solar Systems technology and related marketing activities; the outcomes of the Company's interests in the development of various semiconductor, photonics and alternative energy technologies; the time taken to develop various technologies; the development of competing technologies; the potential for third party claims against the Company's ownership of Intellectual Property associated with its numerous technologies; the potential impact of government regulations or policies; and the outcomes of various commercialisation strategies undertaken by the Company