

SUCCESS STORY

GRID ALTERNATIVES

Varian and Paschall Families. Crockett, CA



JobTrain students installing solar electric systems.

INSTALLATION

Owner	Varian and Paschall Families
Location	Crockett, CA
Size	3.4 kWp
Module Type	YGE 235
Connected	February 1, 2011
Installer	GRID Alternatives

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Number and Module Type	12 units; YGE 235
Lifetime Energy Yield	199,044 kWh
Value of Energy Produced over Lifetime	\$33,240
Lifetime CO ₂ -savings	134 tons

YINGLI SOLAR HELPS LOW-INCOME FAMILIES ACROSS CALIFORNIA

Combined with a network of community volunteers and green job trainees, Yingli Americas and California-based nonprofit GRID Alternatives are working together to install 1 MW of solar energy systems for 400 low-income families throughout 2011. These solar energy systems will generate \$10 million worth of renewable energy over their lifespan, while eliminating 40,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. One example is the Varian and Paschall families, which are Habitat for Humanity homeowners and next-door neighbors from Crockett, CA. The modules provided by Yingli Solar made the systems free of cost and created a "classroom in the field" for solar installation job trainees from the workforce development program, JobTrain. "There was no question for either family. Environmentally, it's the right move. If it could be done affordably, there was no question we would do it," said Heidi Varian. Together, Yingli and GRID Alternatives were able to make affordable solar electric systems a reality for the Varian and Paschall families.

Helping build the clean energy workforce of the future

“GRID Alternatives is grateful to Yingli for helping us make solar power available to the working families that need the savings the most, while **helping build the clean energy workforce of the future**. We are also proving that if solar is a viable technology for low-income families, it can work for anyone anywhere.”

– Erica Mackie,
Executive Director and Co-Founder
of GRID Alternatives



Center and Middle: JobTrain students installing solar electric systems for the Varian and Paschall Families.

Right: Helena Kimball (Head of Marketing Communications, Yingli Solar); Erica Mackie (Executive Director, GRID Alternatives); and Heidi Varian (homeowner).

DETAILS ABOUT THE SYSTEM

- The Varian and Paschall systems represent the beginning of a commitment from Yingli Solar to help more than 400 low-income families go solar in 2011
- 12 of Yingli Solar’s flagship YGE 235 modules were installed on the shared rooftop
- The two installations provided hands-on job training opportunities in solar PV installation to individuals looking to enter the solar workforce or volunteers interested in solar, through direct participation in the installations