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### **Online Tool Released to Facilitate Utility Exchange of Solar Experiences and Lessons Learned**

WASHINGTON, DC May 16, 2007: The Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) announced today that it has released an online Utility Peer Match tool. The tool is available at no cost to all investor owned, municipal, and rural electric cooperative utilities interested in solar electric power.

Utility Peer Match is a unique service that connects utility employees with “solar savvy” peers that have years of experience in implementing solar programs and working on utility solar issues. Whether a utility employee is developing an RFP for utility-scale solar, looking for ways to fund a solar schools program, trying to determine the best incentive level, or looking for information about specific solar technologies, Utility Peer Match will connect him/her with the appropriate people.

“As more and more utilities across the country begin to recognize the value of both distributed and central station solar to the utility and its customers, Utility Peer Match will become an invaluable resource,” said Julia Judd, SEPA executive director. “There are dozens of utilities out there experienced with various types of solar programs and technologies, and the Utility Peer Match tool makes it easy to find the ones who are willing to share their knowledge with others.”

The Utility Peer Match tool is available to all electric utilities as a free service from the Solar Electric Power Association. The tool can be accessed from the Utility Peer Match button on the left-hand navigation bar of the SEPA website at [www.SolarElectricPower.org](http://www.SolarElectricPower.org). SEPA members can log in directly and non-member electric utilities can enter their name, company, and email address to request permission to access the tool.

This fall, SEPA will develop a similar online tool that connects utilities and other potential users of solar with companies that offer specific products and services.

#### **About the Solar Electric Power Association**

Founded in 1992, the Solar Electric Power Association (SEPA) is a 501(c)(3) membership organization that facilitates the use and integration of solar electric power by utilities and their customers. SEPA provides its members with tools, information, networking, and policy analysis and reporting. SEPA’s membership includes over 150 electric utilities, solar companies, and stakeholders. [www.solarelectricpower.org](http://www.solarelectricpower.org)