

# SOLAR POWER IN LOS ANGELES

## GERMAN DELEGATION VISIT

LADWP, In Partnership with the German Consulate Hosts Meetings with German Electric Utility Officials to Discuss Germany's Successful Solar Program, September 27 - 29

**A**s the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) explores ways to expand solar power in Los Angeles, LADWP is engaging in a series of meetings September 27-29 with a delegation of German electric utility officials to learn about and discuss Germany's highly successful solar program.

LADWP General Manager Austin Beutner invited the German delegation to Los Angeles to gain insight into the German utilities' experience in solar power development, particularly the country's feed-in tariff policy. Led by Wolfgang Drautz, Consul General of Germany, visiting dignitaries include Christoph Weissenborn, BDEW, Germany's primary energy and water regulator; Holger Gassner, head of Markets and Political Affairs, RWE, one of Germany's two leading utilities; and Thorsten Schneiders, head of Energy Policy, E.ON Climate and Renewables.

"Germany is a world leader in renewable energy through their solar power program," Mr. Beutner stated. "We want to learn from their experience—what worked and what didn't, potential problems to avoid and effective policies that perhaps we can apply here in Los Angeles."

LADWP faces a significant challenge in the next decade to meet state goals for increasing renewable energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. To accomplish a cost-effective, successful transition to renewable energy and greenhouse gas



reduction, LADWP is currently refining its 2010 Power System Integrated Resource Plan with input gleaned from public workshops held throughout Los Angeles. The visit from German officials will help inform planning and determining the viability of a feed-in tariff solar program for Los Angeles. Feed-in tariff provides a mechanism for a third party to sell solar power or other type of renewable energy to a local utility at an agreed upon price, and ensure a return on their investment.

During the three days, the German delegation is participating in working sessions with LADWP energy resources, electrical engineering, and operations managers, and other personnel on the goals and implementation of Germany's feed-in tariff program. Topics include the German solar program's goals and measurements of success, pricing structures, job creation and economic development. LADWP and German utility officials will also discuss critical technical aspects of grid integration, transmission and connection issues, and system reliability.

On Wednesday, September 29, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Mr. Beutner and Aram Benyamin, Senior Assistant General Manager - Power System, LADWP and the German visitors will discuss Germany's solar program at a public forum at the Greater Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. The event is part of the Chamber's "Something That Matters" program series.

