

Let the Sun Shine!

Environmental sustainability is an essential goal of the District. Escalating energy costs require that management at all levels focus on the efficient and effective use of resources. The District's Green Building Policy implementation requires that at least five percent of a project's total energy is generated from renewable resources, such as solar energy.

Solar installations are now in place on buildings and parking structures throughout the district, including a vertical array on the Career Technology Center parking structure - the largest of its kind in the country.

Data from the California Center for Sustainable Energy shows that the District is generating more renewable energy than any other higher education institution in [SDG&E territory](#). Of the 7.718 megawatts (MW) installed or pending installation under the California Solar Initiative, SDCCD constitutes 2.367 MW of the total.



The vertical array on the south facade of the City College Career Technology Center parking structure is the largest of its kind in the country.

Combined, installations across the District represent the generation of 4,876,129 kilowatt hours (kWh) of renewable energy each year – saving more than 3,500 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions annually. Over the first 20 years of production, this will equate to saving 7.9 million gallons of gasoline CO₂ emissions.

These installations include:

- The District-owned installation on the Career Technology Center (CTC) at City College. This array has more than 350 panels on the south façade of the parking structure and roof. This system is projected to generate approximately 67,558 kWh per year (enough energy to power more than 1,000 homes for a day). This project earned the District a rebate check from the California Solar Initiative for \$105,517.
- An SDG&E-owned system atop the roof of the Skills Center at the Educational Cultural Complex. This latter array consists of 360 panels at 185 watts each, generating a total of 66.6

kW. A web-based computer monitoring system allows users and visitors to [see exactly how much solar energy is generated](#) at any given time.

- Multiple installations as part of a 20-year [Power Purchase Agreement](#) (PPA), including carport solar arrays at Mesa and Miramar Colleges, and the District's main office.



The solar carports at the District offices are among several carport installations throughout the District, part of a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement with Borrego Solar.