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**Green Fuel Technologies, Offers Top Five Tips
for Homeowners to Avoid Solar Scams**

(Phoenix)- The solar industry has become a big business. In Arizona alone, there are 350 solar companies offering photovoltaic installation. Unfortunately, where there is big business, there are usually bigger scams. Green Fuel Technologies Inc., www.greenfuelsolar.com, one of the Valley's leading alternative energy companies, offers consumers five tips on how to avoid being a victim of a solar scam.

“In consideration of the investment size you will make in a solar system for your home, it is critical to carefully evaluate any solar contractor you may consider,” said John Casey, CEO of Green Fuel Technologies. “Solar is a long term investment that will deliver clean renewable energy to your home for 25 + years, and as the industry continues to grow, your due diligence in researching a contractor will insure you have made the right investment.”

Here are Green Fuel Technologies Top 5 Tips:

- 1. Watch out for electrical, general or plumbing contractors who are new to the industry and may just be looking for work in a down market.** How long have they been in business? How long have they been providing solar installations? Unfortunately, there are many unqualified contractors installing solar panels in Arizona. Be sure to investigate the contractor's background and experience with solar. Find out who designs their solar projects. Solar system design is very important to the long term production of the system. If the contractor outsources or is vague about design investigate further and verify that they understand Solar design and are not just putting up panels.

- 2. Make sure the company has a long term commitment to the industry AND will be around in 15-20 years to support your investment.** How long have they been in business? Are they headquartered in Arizona or another state? Are they providing solar for commercial projects as well as residential?
- 3. Verify who will be doing the work on your home or business.** Many late comers to the industry use subcontractors to complete the installation of your solar system. This creates a maze of liability for the customer to navigate if there are issues with the installation or warranty issues in the future. Quality solar companies rarely subcontract, insuring the quality of their installations and their reputation. It is also a good idea to verify that the company you contract with does background checks on all employees.
- 4. Verify the company is properly licensed, bonded & insured.** Are they in good standing with the Registrar of Contractors (ROC) & Better Business Bureau (BBB)? Verify the contractor's license status at www.azroc.com and make sure it is not currently suspended, revoked, inactive, cancelled or expired. Verify the license of all subcontractors that will be performing work on your project. Remember you must have a KB01 or equivalent general contractor's license to subcontract under any circumstance. Many Solar companies subcontract work without maintaining adequate licensing, bonding or insurance to subcontract. Check the status of the contractor you have chosen before you enter into a contract. Check on the day you sign.
- 5. Always ask for and call references. Can they provide you with references? IF NOT, RUN!** Do thorough background checks for every contractor you consider and only work with a licensed contractor. Ask about previous projects, and to see a portfolio of their work. Verify that the portfolio is indeed their work to avoid a poorly installed solar system.
- 6. Establish contract guidelines prior to installation inclusive of the average cost per kWh, accurate utility incentives and tax credits and a fair estimate of increase on future energy costs from the utility.** Cost

and efficiency of solar systems are linked so beware of contractors who haphazardly underbid in order to get your business. Be sure they are using national standards to estimate the production of your system. It is easy to over estimate the production of the proposed system to show greater returns. You get what you pay for. Remember that solar systems cost and output are directly linked. If the system is not optimized, you will not get your energy savings.

Most importantly, when you are considering solar, take your time to review all of your options. Do your research well, and you should end up with a properly installed, energy and money saving solar system.

For more tips on choosing a solar provider or for more information about Green Fuel Technologies please visit www.greenfuelsolar.com or call 1-877-253-4733.

About Green Fuel Solar

Green Fuel Technologies was established in 1999 as an alternative energy company. In 2006, the company began offering green building solutions including solar electric, solar water heating and other energy efficient products for residential and commercial customers. The company offers in-house design and engineering as well as fully licensed electrical and general contracting. For more information on Green Fuel Technologies, please visit <http://www.greenfuelsolar.com>.