



WHITE BLUFFS SOLAR STATION

Overview

White Bluffs Solar Station is a solar power demonstration project developed jointly by Energy Northwest, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, and Newport Northwest LLC. Each of these entities invested \$50,000 in the project. Washington State University's Cooperative Extension Energy Service coordinated a "Brightfields" solar grant, using the U.S. Department of Energy contribution. The station is owned and operated by Energy Northwest.

The project is comprised of 242 photovoltaic panels; the project's nameplate rating is 38.7 kilowatts DC, which converts to 29.5 kilowatts AC at PVUSA Test Conditions. The panels are multi-crystalline silicon modules that convert sunlight into electricity.

Benefit to the Region

Solar power is a clean, renewable energy source. Solar site construction costs drive the cost of solar power above market rates. Bonneville Power Administration buys all of the power produced at White Bluffs for 4 cents per kilowatt-hour. The Bonneville Environmental Foundation sells "green tags" from the facility to businesses that want to support construction of new renewable resources or companies mitigating pollutants in one form or another.

Energy Northwest

Energy Northwest is a public power joint operating agency headquartered near Richland, Washington. It actively explores and develops resource generation opportunities and a wide range of energy and business services. Currently, Energy Northwest operates four power plants: Columbia Generating Station, Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project, Nine Canyon Wind Project, and White Bluffs Solar Station.

Type

Polycrystalline photovoltaic panels (solar)

Generating Capacity

38.7 Kilowatts DC

Location

Near Richland, Washington

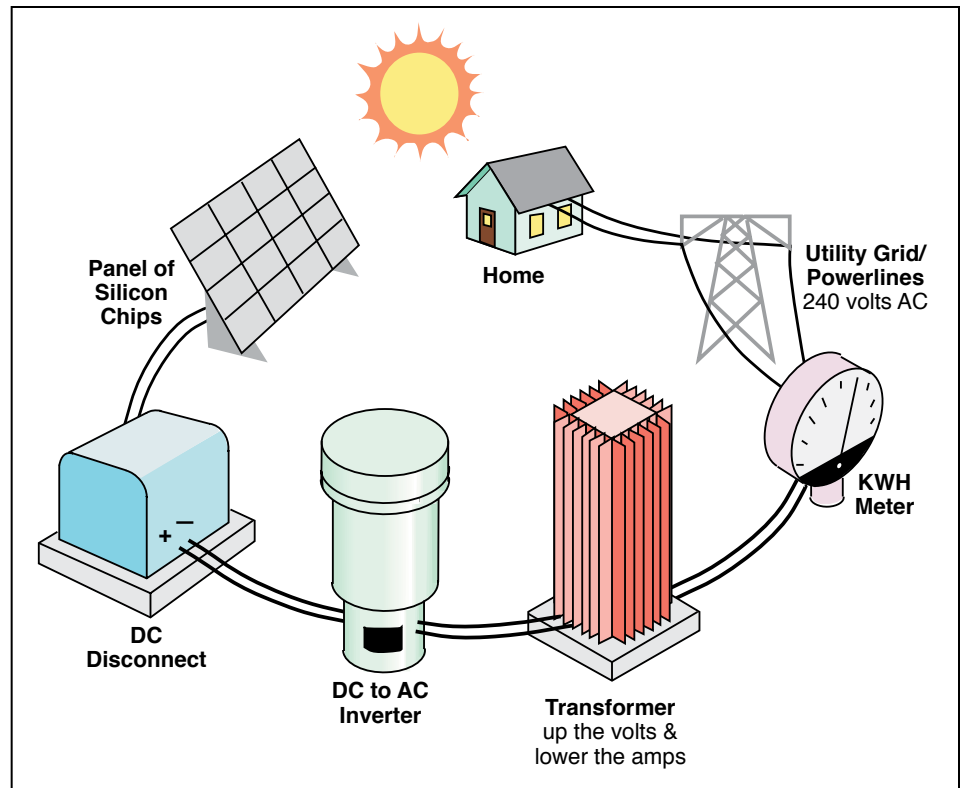
Site Size

6,000 square feet

See solar power overview on reverse.

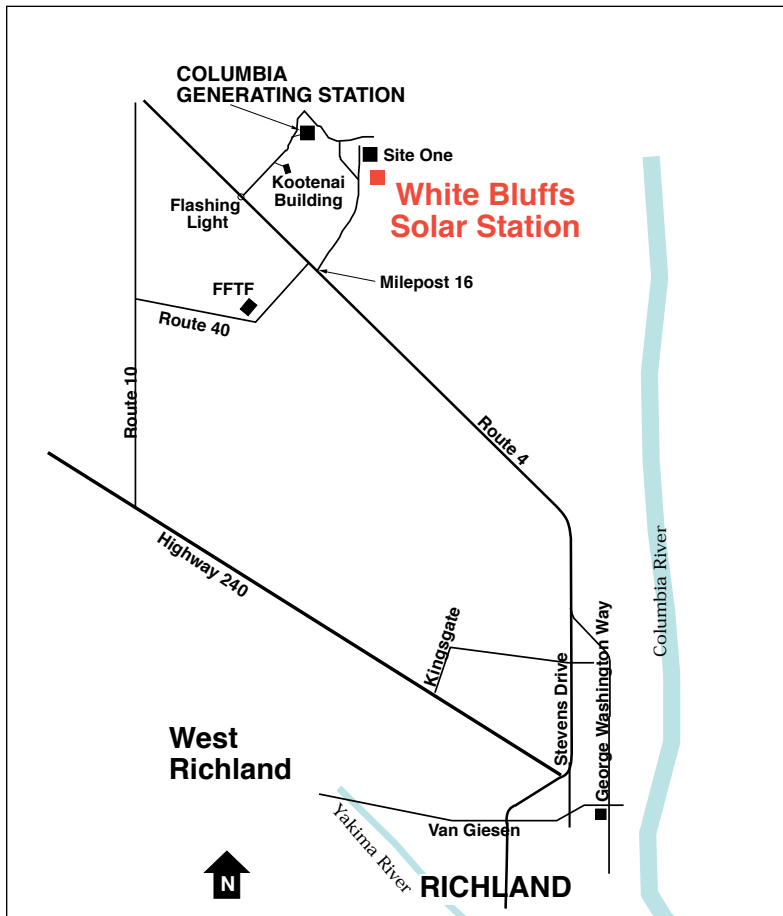
How a Solar Panel Works

Sunlight strikes the panel passing through layers of silicon chips, creating energy. It then feed into a DC disconnect, converting DC to AC. Next it enters a transformer, then to a meter and lastly out to grid which provides power to your home.



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Project planning began.....	6/2001
Initial invitation for bid.....	7/2001
Bid opening.....	8/2001
Contract awarded to BP Solar.....	12/2001
Construction began.....	3/2002
Meter installed, supplying power to the grid.....	4/2002
Construction complete, site dedication.....	5/2002



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