

**FIRST SOLAR POWERED HOTEL IN GOLDEN
(Golden, CO)
Monday, December 13, 2010**

The award winning Golden Hotel is proud to announce their latest green initiative...the installation of solar panels to their property in Golden, Colorado- making them the first solar powered hotel in Golden. The installation, completed in mid-December, will make a significant impact on decreasing the carbon footprint of the hotel. Owners Burt & Andria Lewis stated “This was an easy decision for us; we are consistently trying to enhance our green practices and what better way to do so than by going solar.”

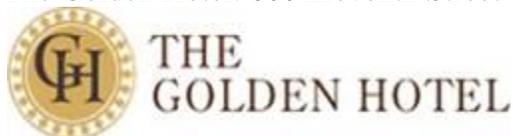
The 62 room hotel features 160 panels, which will save 43,647 kWh of electricity production annually for the next thirty years. Other recurring environmental benefits that will additionally transpire annually for the next thirty+ years is the equivalent of 89,389 lbs of reduced CO2 emissions, a reduction of 97,775 vehicle miles driven or a total of 3,438 trees planted. Guests at The Golden Hotel will be able to see the difference the hotel is making first hand, as the hotel will feature a monitoring system in their lobby, which will show the daily savings, as well as historical data.

The Golden Hotel has an already impressive list of green initiatives including the completion of an Xcel Energy efficiency audit.

The Lewis’s own The Boulder Creek Quality Inn & Suites, a 46 room property in Boulder, Colorado, which also had solar panels installed in mid December.

Heath Mackay of Namasté Solar stated that “The Boulder Creek Quality Inn & Suites and The Golden Hotel Solar installations demonstrate Colorado’s leading role in renewable energy not only to residents, but to the thousands of visitors from around the world who stay at these wonderful accommodations. Namasté Solar was honored to be chosen for these important projects”.

The Golden Hotel: 800 Eleventh Street Golden, Colorado 80401



The Golden Hotel

PV System Specifications & Projected Environmental Benefits:

<i>Recurring Environmental Benefits (every year for 30+ years)</i>	
<i>System Size</i>	<i>33.6kW</i>
<i>Solar Panel Quantity</i>	<i>160</i>
<i>Solar Panel Type</i>	<i>Kyocera 210 Watt Modules</i>
<i>Racking System</i>	<i>Sunlink ballasted</i>
<i>Array Orientation</i>	<i>South facing tilted at 10 degrees</i>
<i>Annual Electricity Production</i>	<i>43,647kWh's / year</i>
<i>Annual CO2 Emissions Reduced</i>	<i>89,389 lbs / year</i>
<i>Equivalent Reduction in Vehicle Miles Driven</i>	<i>97,775 miles / year</i>
<i>Trees Planted</i>	<i>3,438 total trees</i>

*The amount of carbon offset by buying a certain amount of REC's is calculated based on the state average carbon dioxide emissions coefficient for electric utilities, 1997-99, as published in "U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Energy Information Administration Form EIA-1605 (2001), Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gasses, Appendix C: Adjusted Electricity Emissions Factors by State." For the Rocky Mountain Region, each of the ten states' carbon emissions per kilowatt-hour is calculated and then averaged for the entire region. The pounds of carbon dioxide produced for each kilowatt hour of electricity generated in Colorado is 2.048.

**The number of cars removed from the road is calculated based on driving a car that gets 21.4 mpg for 11,904 miles (the national average) per year. (The average miles driven per year is derived from the "Monthly Energy Review, February 2001" published by the Energy Information Administration. The figure averages car miles driven and SUV miles driven.) This yields 556 gallons of gasoline used. Pounds of CO2 produced per gallon of gasoline burned is 19.564 (from "Instructions for Form EIA 1605B, Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Appendix B," U.S. Department of Energy and the Energy Information Administration.) This driving thus produces 10,883 pounds of CO2 per year. This amount is then correlated to the amount of CO2 produced by electricity generation averaged over the Rocky Mountain Region.

The estimated amount of CO2 that a tree will take up in a year is 26 pounds. This is based on a figure from American Forests as cited by the Natural Resources Defense Council, "OnEarth Magazine," Winter, 2005 (<http://www.nrdc.org/onearth/05win/livgreen2.asp>) Actual amounts of atmospheric CO2 taken up by trees varies with the age of the tree, the species, local climate, the tree's health, etc. *Source: Docket 08I-267E at the Colorado PUC. See page 14 in Xcel's "ECA" filing.