



Boulder, Colorado Homeowner Reduces Her Carbon Footprint with Award-Winning SunPower Solar System

Colorado homeowner Kate Frazier doesn't have many bad days. But when they happen, she handles them in an unusual, but effective, way. She takes a look at her electric meter, which sometimes goes backwards. It all started in late 2007, when Kate relocated from her company's Miami office to its Boulder office. Coworkers told her about a new housing development in the area called Holiday, and she was so impressed with the innovative, energy-efficient features, including a rooftop SunPower solar electric system, that she decided to buy her first home there. Today, Kate's SunPower system saves her about \$600 a year in electricity costs.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Location: Boulder, CO

Completed: September, 2007

System Size: 4.3 kW

PV Surface Area: 270 sq ft

Number of Panels: 20

Products: SunPower 215 Solar Panels

BENEFITS

- Saves Kate \$600 a year with clean, solar power
- Attractive design integrates seamlessly with rooftop
- Will reduce carbon emissions by 379,000 lbs over 30 years, equivalent to planting 60 acres of trees or not driving 473,000 miles
- Won the SunPower 2007 'Intelegant Award for Excellence' in residential solar system installation.



"It's cool that the system doesn't require you to do 'x, y, z.' You don't have to turn the panels to face the sun. There aren't any switches. It just does what it does—it's as reliable as the water. There's no burden on me. I thought there would be more involvement."

Kate Frazier
Holiday Development Homeowner

COMMUNITY INTEREST GAINS MOMENTUM

When Kate Frazier moved from Miami to Boulder in late 2007, she began adjusting to a new culture, a new climate, and a new set of coworkers. And, because she liked the idea of being more sustainable, she bought a new home—her first—equipped with a solar power system and several other energy-efficient features. "I felt really inspired by what they'd put together, and by the prospect of reducing my carbon footprint," she said. "You could tell the builder and community had a lot of heart for the project and were very enthusiastic. And, from a financial perspective, it seemed like a good investment. It's the kind of home that will have more value over time."

COBURN PARTNERS WITH INDEPENDENT POWER SYSTEMS TO CREATE A SUSTAINABLE HOME FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Coburn Development made the decision to have solar installed on several homes in the Holiday community. They pre-wired the homes for solar, gave them an optimal roof slope, and placed an energy production display inside. They also included energy-efficient appliances, recycled insulation, and a basement vent that lets in regulated amounts of fresh air during the winter—a feature Kate particularly appreciates. Independent Power Systems, a SunPower Premier Dealer, installed the SunPower 4.3 kW system. Symmetrical, all-black panels and a mounting system flush with the rooftop give the home a seamless appearance.

KATE FRAZIER SAVES \$600 A YEAR WITH AWARD-WINNING SYSTEM

Within two months of moving in, Kate received a check from her electric company because her system overproduced. She estimates she'll save \$600 a year. But living in a sustainable home does more than reduce her electric bill. It changes her habits, too. From eliminating her 12-pack water-buying habit and recycling, to using energy-efficient light bulbs, Kate is inspired to live more sustainably. In the future, she may also consider switching her hot water heater from electric to solar power. Coburn and Independent Power Systems won the 2007 SunPower 'Intelegant Award for Excellence' in residential solar system installation due to their work at Holiday.

SunPower Intelegant Awards recognize residential SunPower solar electric power system installations that exemplify SunPower's commitment to excellence in aesthetics, quality and performance.

SUNPOWER®

Premier Dealer



"SunPower panels provide the highest quality installation possible with the most power per square foot."

Tony Boniface, President, Independent Power Systems

Independent Power Systems is a solar electric system contractor operating out of Bozeman, Montana and Boulder, Colorado with over ten years of installation experience. Our company mission is to provide the highest quality installations using state of the art equipment for the purpose of making this technology the best source for home and business power.