

- [Home](#)
- [About](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [Contact](#)



- [Insight](#)
- [2012 Review](#)
- [Solar](#)
- [Renewables](#)
- [Smart Energy](#)
- [Smart Transport](#)
- [Smart Buildings](#)
- [Resource Efficiency](#)
- [Climate](#)
- [Markets](#)
- [Interviews](#)

0

## [1.85 MW Japanese solar farm to donate profits to local communities](#)

By [Cleantechnica](#) on 23 January 2013

[Cleantechnica](#)

The feel-good news about renewable energy never ceases. A 1.85 megawatt solar farm in Japan’s Wakayama prefecture will donate all profits to local non-profit organizations, Kyocera recently announced. The so-called “social contribution mega power plant project” — a partnership between Kyocera and Ryukoku University — is expected to cost about \$8 million and be up and running in July 2013.

As Japan bounces back from the devastating 2011 earthquake, tsunami, and Fukushima Daichi nuclear disaster, discussion of generating cleaner, safer electricity from offshore wind farms and solar projects (instead of restarting nuclear plants) has been contentious. In the two years since the disaster, protests urging political leaders to totally abandon nuclear power and numerous successful wind and solar projects have tipped the scales of Japanese public opinion towards increasing electricity generated by renewable resources.

Japan’s generous feed-in-tariffs, which require utilities companies to pay 53 cents a kilowatt hour for electricity generated by solar panels, have even attracted foreign photovoltaic makers like Spain’s Gestamp Solar, supporting the CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets’ estimation that Japan could have 17.3 gigawatts of solar power by 2014.

This social contribution solar farm being built by Kyocera and Ryukoku University will be in the southeastern city of Inami, and will be operated by Plus Social Co. and The Trans Value Trust Company. The provisionally titled Ryukoku Solar Park will consist of about 7,500 Kyocera solar panels that will generate about 1.9 million kilowatt-hours per year. After operating costs are accounted for, the remaining profits will be donated in the Wakayama prefecture and Kyoto areas where the solar farms will be installed.

In today’s world of fat-cat CEOs padding their own big bonuses, the Ryukoku Solar Park concept of socially responsible investing is novel... and hopefully contagious.

This article was originally posted on [Cleantechnica](#). Re-posted with permission.

**Share this:**

[CleanTech Bites](#) • [Solar](#)

**Leave a Reply**

Name (required)

Email (required) (will not be published)

Website

If you want a picture to show with your comment, go get a [Gravatar](#).

Submit Comment

Notify me of follow-up comments by email.

Notify me of new posts by email.

Subscribe to RE Daily News

[« Previous Post](#)

• **Sign up for our FREE daily newsletter**

Email Address\*

First Name

Last Name

\* = required field

**Sponsored Links**



[Algae to oil manufacturing technology. The sustainable and cost competitive future for fuel security.](#)



- A D V E R T I S E M E N T
- A D V E R T I S E M E N T

• **Best of the Web**

- [IPCC draft report leakes, shows global warming is NOT due to the sun](#) | Skeptical Science
- [The gift of death](#) | George Monbiot
- [Road tripping on Tesla's electric highway](#) | Todd Woody, Forbes
- [Japan: A beacon for weary solar makers](#) | Giga Om
- [The psychology of climate change: It's in my back yard now](#) | China Dialogue

• **Follow Us**



- **Popular Articles**

- [Rising solar output drives Europe power prices to record lows](#)
- [Swan dive on climate as study warns of disappearing pensions](#)
- [Koch-Funded Study Finds 2.5°F Warming Of Land Since 1750 Is Manmade](#)
- [Thornley unplugged: Leaves Better Place after just three months as CEO](#)
- [Four years of falling electricity demand: can this continue?](#)

- **Popular Tags**

[algae](#) [biofuels](#) [carbon emissions](#) [carbon price](#) [CEFC](#)  
[China](#) [clean energy](#) [cleantech](#) [clean](#)  
[technology](#) [climate change](#) [climate](#)  
[denial](#) [climate science](#) [coal](#) [coal-seam gas](#) [CSP](#) [doha](#)  
[electric vehicles](#) [energy efficiency](#)  
[energy storage](#) [EVs](#) [extreme weather](#) [feed-in-tariff](#)  
[feed in tariffs](#) [geothermal](#) [global](#)  
[warming](#) [green investment](#) [hydro](#) [low-carbon](#)  
[economy](#) [National Electricity Market](#) [nuclear](#) [Origin](#)  
[Energy](#) [renewable energy](#) [renewable energy target](#)  
[sea-level rise](#) [smart grids](#) [solar](#) [solar energy](#) [solar](#)  
[flagships](#) [solar PV](#) [solar thermal](#)  
[sustainability](#) [water](#) [wave energy](#) [wind](#)  
[energy](#) [wind turbine syndrome](#)

© Copyright [Renew Economy](#) 2013. All rights reserved.  
[Privacy](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Contact](#) | [Login](#)