



# La Paz County Board of Supervisors

1108 Joshua Avenue  
Parker, Arizona 85344

(928) 669-6115 TDD (928) 669-8400 Fax (928) 669-9709

[www.co.la-paz.az.us](http://www.co.la-paz.az.us)

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D. L. Wilson	- District 1	Ron Drake	- County Administrator
Duce Minor	- District 2	Diane Green	- Clerk of the Board
Holly Irwin	- District 3		

Date: 05/22/20

## La Paz County Receives Title for Solar Energy Site

La Paz County is pleased to announce it has officially received title to 5,939 acres of land from the Bureau of Land Management to further its economic development efforts. The County previously approved an Economic Development Agreement with 174 Power Global to use the site for solar energy that will produce up to 850 Megawatts of energy benefiting the County and the nation. This major success is the culmination of over four years of effort by the County.

“Our vision is to attract new renewable solar development to this strategic location to diversify our local economy and create high paying jobs,” said La Paz County Chairwoman Holly Irwin. “Less than 6% of the land within La Paz County is in private ownership. This land conveyance will increase the tax base so our rural County can adequately meet the growing needs of our citizens.”

"The Colorado River Indian Tribes is proud to support this project and appreciates the partnership with La Paz County as it engages in meaningful economic development, while still protecting our sacred history tied to the region." said Chairman Dennis Patch of the Colorado River Indian Tribes. "Now more than ever, Western Arizona needs sustainable jobs, so It is my hope that we can work with the BLM to replicate this process and add additional land to our reservation and the County for even more economic development opportunities."

This investment in the amount of \$4,150,000 will bring significant economic opportunity for years to come. This effort would not have been possible without the direct support of the Arizona Congressional delegation representing La Paz County, led by U.S. Representative Paul Gosar, Senator Krysten Sinema and Senator Martha McSally.

“Today is a great day for La Paz County,” said Representative Gosar. “Last year, I was thrilled to see my bill, the La Paz County Land Conveyance Act, included in the Lands Package and signed into law. The opportunity for the people of La Paz County created as a result of this land conveyance will bring new economic opportunity, high paying jobs and a brighter future for our state. It is my privilege to represent the people of La Paz County in Congress and I look forward to seeing it continue to grow and prosper.”

“We worked for years to get the La Paz County land transfer across the finish line, and I am thrilled to see the Bureau of Land Management follow through. This move will spur job creation in La Paz county and protect our public lands for future generations of Arizonans,” said Senator Kyrsten Sinema.

Senator Martha McSally said, “In a county like La Paz with such a massive federal footprint, sometimes it takes a literal act of Congress to open up opportunities for economic development. I led the effort in the Senate to get the La Paz County Land Conveyance Act passed into law and when federal bureaucracy threatened to delay even further, I pressed BLM to keep their commitment to La Paz to complete the process efficiently and expeditiously. I applaud the hard work of the County Supervisors, BLM and all the stakeholders involved in this innovative economic development effort.”