## U.S. EPA and CRS Recognize Solar 4R Schools with National *Leadership in Green Power Education* Award for Renewable Energy Education



## Program Empowers Educators to Prepare Next Generation of Clean Energy Leaders, with Award-Winning Projects Supported by Chevrolet, Boeing Foundation and Clark PUD

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October 19, 2015 — <u>Solar 4R Schools</u> (S4RS), a <u>Bonneville Environmental Foundation</u> (BEF) program, was awarded the Leadership in Green Power Education <u>2015 Green Power Leadership Award</u> by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) at today's Renewable Energy Markets Conference in Washington, D.C.

S4RS delivers comprehensive K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education by providing schools with a wide range of valuable resources on renewable energy — from teacher training and interactive science kits to real-time energy generation data access.

Support from companies, foundations, non-profits and utilities allows S4RS to extend its reach. Many companies have seen the value of integrating renewable energy STEM education into the classroom. This is particularly true of S4RS Corporate Partners: <a href="Chevrolet">Chevrolet</a>, <a href="Boeing Foundation">Boeing Foundation</a>, <a href="Clark Public Utilities">Clark Public Utilities</a>, and most recently, <a href="Alcoa Foundation">Alcoa Foundation</a>, which has signed on to become a Partner in 2016. S4RS Corporate Partners support the program in a number of ways:

- Chevrolet provided renewable energy education resources to teachers in communities served by dealerships with Electric Vehicle canopy charging stations, connecting classroom learning to real life situations.
- Boeing Foundation piloted a solar car engineering challenge event, during which student teams used S4RS science kit resources and training to produce and race their own solar car designs.
- Clark Public Utilities Green Lights Program supported the development of electricity from wind and solar and directly linked utility customers to renewable energy education resources.
- S4RS Corporate Partners have helped reach thousands of students and teachers across more than 20 states to directly empower the next generation of clean energy leaders.

bonneville environmental foundation

"It is a great honor for Solar 4R Schools to receive the EPA and CRS Green Power Leadership Award for our program's work to integrate comprehensive renewable energy education into K-12 curriculums across the nation. With support from corporate and utility partners, S4RS develops and encourages student interest in rapidly growing STEM fields. These subjects deserve greater attention in all classrooms, as robust STEM education tools will help today's youth address tomorrow's energy, health, and national security challenges," said S4RS Director Chaun MacQueen.

The Leadership in Green Power Education Award recognizes unique and effective programs that build and grow the voluntary market for green power.

To learn more about Solar 4R Schools, please visit <a href="www.solar4rschools.org">www.solar4rschools.org</a>. Companies who are interested in learning more about supporting Solar 4R Schools should contact Chaun MacQueen at 503-553-3925 or <a href="macqueen@b-e-f.org">cmacqueen@b-e-f.org</a>.

## ABOUT BONNEVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION (BEF)

A national nonprofit, BEF empowers businesses to be in balance with the environment through a full suite of environmental products, educational and community engagement programs and custom solutions that help our partners address their unavoidable energy, carbon and water impacts. We align our partners' goals with our extensive industry expertise to achieve immediate results today while helping solve tomorrow's biggest environmental challenges. We thrive on bringing game-changing ideas to market, including: helping to start the voluntary renewable energy credit (REC) market; creating the first voluntary water restoration product (WRC); helping launch the first community-funded solar project in the nation; co-creating the Change the Course water sustainability campaign; and building the nation's most comprehensive K-12 renewable energy STEM education program, Solar 4R Schools. Learn more at www.b-e-f.org.

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