



**Wisteria by Christopherson Homes is First Community in California  
to be Approved by California's New Solar Homes Partnership**

**Sacramento, CA (July 10, 2007)** – The new home community of Wisteria by Christopherson Homes in Rocklin, California is the first community to be approved by the State of California under its New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP) program.

As part of the California Solar Initiative (CSI), NSHP provides significant rebates for homes that feature solar electric systems, achieve at least 15 percent above current Title 24 Standards, and include ENERGY STAR appliances. Through partnering with the state's utilities to provide commensurate energy efficiency rebates, NSHP encourages homes to be built to a Tier II efficiency level, i.e. 35-40% above current Title 24 Standards.

Old Country Roofing (OCR), Northern California's largest roofing company, will install the solar roofing systems at Wisteria, where the solar power is not an upgrade option. The solar is included in the purchase price of the home. Each of the remaining homes in the subdivision will use OCR's comprehensive turn-key solution, powered by a 2.3kW BP Solar EnergyTile™ integrated solar roofing system.

Jackalyne Pfannenstiel, Chairman of the California Energy Commission, says she is pleased about the first approved subdivision to participate in the NSHP.

“Christopherson Homes has made its mark as a company on the cutting edge of environmental consciousness, and that is worthy of recognition,” says Chairman Pfannenstiel. “As the first production homebuilder to participate in the New Solar Homes Partnership, we’re extremely pleased to see this project include everything we hoped to accomplish from the NSHP – efficiency and solar as standard features, at our preferred Tier II level. We hope that Christopherson Homes’ leadership will influence other homebuilders to jump on the solar bandwagon and contribute to the success of the Partnership.”

Diana Sanger, Director of Sales and Marketing at Christopherson Homes, says that as a family owned and operated homebuilder, the company prides itself on the protection of the environment.

“We are thankful to be the first project to be recognized by the NSHP, because it means we are achieving our sustainability goals,” says Sanger. “Using OCR’s solar roofing solution will increase resale values and provide lower energy bills for the homeowners – while helping us to do our part as a homebuilder to conserve the environment.”

Aaron Nitzkin, Vice President of OCR’s Solar Division, says that solar electric systems are a key component of the green building movement and are growing in popularity with home buyers.

“Solar power guarantees a steady, reliable source of power that is not subject to rate increases by the local utility or the price of a barrel of oil, and it helps us care for the planet,” says Nitzkin. “This project is a great beginning towards reaching the California goal of one million solar homes.”

Wisteria at Whitney Ranch is a highly desirable neighborhood in Rocklin offering 4-6 bedroom homes from the high \$500,000's. Along with four floorplans that offer a wide range of options, Wisteria features exceptional architectural design, generous home amenities and proximity to the acclaimed Whitney High School, the Roseville Galleria and entertainment venues like the Sacramento Valley Amphitheatre.

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### **About Old Country Roofing and OCR Solar Solutions**

Founded in 1967, OCR installs on average more than 10,000 roofs each year. Located in Vacaville, California (with six branch offices in Northern and Central, California and Reno, Nevada), OCR has more than 650 employees and works with 100+ homebuilding companies, as well as homeowners for whom they provide re-roofing services. OCR is the first roofing company in the country to receive the NAHB (National Association of Home Builders) Research Center's National Housing Quality (NHQ) Certification. This official certification recognizes OCR's excellence of workmanship and the effectiveness of their Quality Assurance Program and commitment to customer care.

More at: [www.oldcountryroofing.com](http://www.oldcountryroofing.com).

### **About Christopherson Homes**

Founded in 1978 by Keith and Brenda Christopherson, the company has been voted Sonoma County Builder of the Year several times. Its communities are known for quality and design in highly desirable locations throughout Northern California. After move-in, the Christopherson warranty teams have the authority and skills to resolve service situations promptly. With over 3,500 homes in more than 30 communities, Christopherson's neighborhoods are situated throughout Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Sacramento, El Dorado and Placer counties.

More at: [www.christophersonhomes.com](http://www.christophersonhomes.com)

**About the New Solar Homes Program (NSHP)**

The California Energy Commission will manage a 10-year, \$400 million program to encourage energy efficiency and solar in new home construction, known as the New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP). The Energy Commission works with builders and developers to incorporate high levels of energy efficiency and high-performing solar systems to help create a self-sustaining solar market. The NSHP specifically targets production builders of new single family, low-income, and multi-family homes.

For more information visit: [www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/nshp/index.html](http://www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/nshp/index.html)

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