



Devon Brubaker is the Manager at the Rock Springs County Airport in Rock Springs, Wyoming. Photos show the progress of panel installation, which was completed in November, 2017.

## **Devon Brubaker - Rock Springs, Wyoming (December, 2017)**

For years, I have been an avid supporter of renewable energy and sustainability. I have taken a lead role in my different positions in the pursuit of sustainable initiatives. When I learned that there was an opportunity to partner with Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky Program to have a system installed, it was a no brainer for me and our Board as our local match allowed for the ROI (Return On Investment) to be within a reasonable timeframe. It paired perfectly with the construction of our new General Aviation Terminal and Hangar Facility.

Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky Program provided 85% of the funding for this project.

Creative Energies of Lander did the installation for us and there haven't been any issues since we installed. We get the benefit of lower operating costs, being environmentally responsible, and serving as an example to the local community

We should make about 48,000 kWh of electrical generation which we are estimating to be 40% of demand from our new General Aviation Terminal & Hangar Facility.

I recommend that people thinking about installing do their research and become educated about all of the different options on the market today. Solar power generation is making advancements every day and those advancements allow for smaller panels, better and more reliable energy production. There are many manufacturers and systems to choose from. One of the neatest things with these systems are the public monitoring systems. I would strongly encourage business owners to look into these systems and find the one that will give you the best opportunity to show off your system's performance to your customers.

Having this system installed in tandem with a much larger project created scheduling and logistical issues. I encourage anyone in the same situation to focus on the main project and have it designed for the addition of the solar versus trying to build the solar as part of another project.

Current Wyoming statutes restrict the maximum amount of solar generation on net-metering systems at 25 kW. I am eager to begin a dialogue with all stakeholders within the state including the Wyoming State Legislature to allow for larger systems. Larger systems allow for minimal cost increases but exponential power generation increases. If there was not a cap on our system, we would have worked towards a system that could provide for 100% of our energy demand.

We are excited to be the first Commercial Installation in Sweetwater County and the first Airport Installation in the State of Wyoming. We look forward to growing our power generation capability in the coming years with more wind and solar projects.