

To ignore mankind's contribution to climate change is perilous and Congress must invest in clean, renewable and sustainable energy technologies. Right here along our Central Coast, Fort Hunter Liggett was selected as one of six pilot installations for the U.S. Army net-zero energy program. The goal of this program is to produce as much energy on site as it uses over the course of a year. In April 2012, Fort Hunter Liggett officially opened a new one megawatt solar microgrid which produces enough energy to power 250 to 300 homes at once. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District oversaw construction of the \$8.4 million project, one of six pilot installations selected by the U.S. Army to be net-zero energy. Completion is scheduled for January 2013.

With projects such as the one at Fort Hunter Liggett, the Department of Defense is showing our nation that a wise security strategy includes reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, investing in clean energy, improving efficiency, and not wasting resources. This strategy also protects our environment. We need to work together as a community and foster a collaborative environment to solve our nation's problems. Better utilizing resources is something Monterey County is known for fostering. Team Monterey is made up of thirteen Department of Defense and National Security organizations, in which Fort Hunter Liggett is a member. Each member has a unique mission, and they partner in common areas of interest. I will continue to lead Congress and work to make sure that the Central Coast spirit breaks down barriers to clean energy, land conservation, and national security.