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municipal engineering  
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**Green Valley Consulting Engineers Wins Special Project of the Year for Bodean Company Mark West Quarry Solar Panel Project—*Green Valley recognized for construction staking challenges***

(Santa Rosa, CA) - Green Valley Consulting Engineers won the **2011 Special Project of the Year Award** for construction staking on extreme terrain for the Bodean Company Mark West Quarry Solar Panel project from the [American Society of Civil Engineers \(ASCE\) North Coast Section](#).



The Mark West Solar Panel project is owned by the [Bodean Company](#) – an aggregate and asphalt supplier located in Santa Rosa, California. With 3,444 solar panels, this innovative solar power project is the largest in the western United States and makes the BoDean Company the first quarry in the world to go 100 percent solar at one of its quarry sites.

[Green Valley Consulting Engineers](#) (Green Valley) provided “very precise” construction staking for 864 Terrafix earth screws used to anchor the solar panel rack system to the steep quarry terrain. Green Valley was awarded the **Special Project award** for construction staking on extreme terrain.



The almost vertical rock mining site posed intriguing challenges since Green Valley’s work needed to be conducted on a 30% angle slope requiring the use of special terrain screw mounting systems. The

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physically exhausting landscape required Green Valley to 'think outside of the box' by employing "quick stakes" which are lighter and faster to place – taking roughly 1/3 less time when compared with traditional "lath" stakes.

The impressive new solar system is capable of generating 1.165 megawatts of green electricity annually and offsets the release of 1,844,521 pounds of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) per year – the equivalent of driving 2,494,595 miles in an average car.



Liz Ellis, President of Green Valley Consulting Engineers stated, *"We are thrilled we had the opportunity to work on this very progressive and innovative solar panel project. The entire team from design to installation worked incredibly hard on this project."*

Awards were given on September 14, 2011 during the first annual 2011 ASCE North Coast Section awards dinner at DeTurk Round Barn in Santa Rosa, California.

[Green Valley Consulting Engineers](http://www.gvalley.com) is a Santa Rosa, CA. civil engineering, land surveying, construction management/inspection and landscape architecture firm dedicated to serving its communities through creative, innovative, environmentally responsible, engineering solutions. Green Valley was founded in 1997 by Elizabeth Ellis, P.E. and will be celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012. For more information, please visit [www.gvalley.com](http://www.gvalley.com).

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