

# Designed For You



4945 West Patrick Lane  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118-2853  
office 702.534.7888 fax 702.534.1818

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architecture / engineering / site  
**GARY GUY WILSON**



planning / interior design  
**ARCHITECTS**

## Solar Thermal Technology

by Gary Guy Wilson, AIA, LEED AP

Things are going on the economic tide is beginning to turn... In the meantime, Green is making its way across the country and showing in many different ways. The Architect has a salad bowl of "Green" ideas he has come across his desk related to the Hotel Industry, and shares them as food for thought.

### There is a new bright spot being built in the California Desert...

At about 5 miles South West of the Nevada – California State Lines, just North of Interstate 15, is an amazing happening.

A complex known as the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System is under construction.

Bechtel and BrightSource Energy are teamed to build the world's largest solar thermal facility. The full project is being developed in 3 phases, and is designed to deliver on the Solar Energy Promise. Ivanpah will use proven solar thermal technology with a low environmental impact design to power California's Clean Energy economy with cost competitive and reliable solar power over the life-cycle of the facility. The Project is a 392 megawatt solar thermal power facility, located on 3600 acres of US BLM land. The project uses mirrors to focus the power of the sun on solar receivers, sitting on top of steel frame "Power" towers.

The electricity generated by 3 proposed plants will be enough to serve more than 140,000 homes in California during the peak hours of the day. It is expected the complex will reduce CO2 emissions by more than 400,000 tons per year. The Plant will use BrightSource Energy's LPT solar thermal technology, and, is expected to be completed in 2013, at a cost of approximately \$1.3- billion dollars.

Recent progress from Ivanpah indicates construction is well underway and making great strides. Some highlights include:

- In May of 2011 there were 500 workers on site, a boon in a down economy
- There are 150 Biologists, Botanists and Monitors working on site to protect the desert tortoise and other animal and plant life. These specialists have worked 90,000 hours to date.
- 16 Miles of fencing have been built.
- And, so far over 10,000 feet of pipe.

A very valuable resource in the desert is the radiated solar energy. It is being harvested as we speak, creating, opportunities, jobs, and clean energy..

Nevada also has this valuable resource....

How can LEED principles apply in your building Project?. By taking a fresh look at techniques for building and for systems selections...

Do you Questions or Comments regarding "Green" considerations in your life? "ASK THE ARCHITECT/LEED AP" at [ggw@ggwarehitects.com](mailto:ggw@ggwarehitects.com)."



## SPOTLIGHT Selena A. Perez

Selena A. Perez first entered the scene at GGWArchitects, working on our "Shopping Center Redevelopment Campaign" in 2008. At that time, she'd been a Commercial Real Estate Broker with Commerce CRG/a Cushman & Wakefield Alliance (Commerce) since 2004, representing both tenants and landlords in sales and leasing for their property. Working closely with her on a regular basis, we were introduced to her exceptional skills in all aspects of office administration and management. So impressed were we that we offered Selena the position of Executive Team Leader at GGWArchitects in June, 2010, Now as a bonafide GGWArchitects team member, Selena provides full-capacity administrative assistance.

Selena, the eldest of 3 daughters, grew up in the Southern California area. She first earned a Bachelors in Industrial and Systems Engineering from U.S.C, which blended a technical and business focus. Selena joined A.T. & T. in San Diego as Operations Manager, supervising nearly 20 installation and repair technicians. She held this post for 2 years before returning to U.S.C. to receive a Masters in Counseling Psychology.

While at U.S.C. this second time around, Selena worked in Student Affairs in the Residential Life Program for a building of 250 students. Selena managed a team of 8 Residential Advisors (a role she, herself, played while at U.S.C. the first time) and also coordinated academic, social, and cultural events for her residents.

However, the more affordable housing market and career opportunities in the educational field at CCSD lured Selena to Las Vegas in July, 2004. With her counseling degree, she sought a position at the middle or high school level.

While waiting for a bite, Selena saw a different opportunity with Commerce. She was hired as Marketing Coordinator in November, 2004 and within 6 months had worked her way up to Commercial Real Estate Broker for the industrial sector, after getting her real estate license. Her corporate management skills and counseling background gave her the ability to both address problems and sell solutions.

Selena's focus was in redevelopment areas. Her responsibilities included showing property to potential tenants, keeping up on market data, making cold calls to potential clients, and coordinating marketing efforts. In Selena's first 2 years at Commerce, industrial land increased from \$3.00 to \$12.00 per square foot.

Not only did Selena expand her career roles, she had a personal life-changing experience, when daughter, Sage, was born in February, 2010. Selena also remains involved in commercial real estate within MRH Associates. She throws herself into everything she does. We're glad she's here!

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