

# Designed For You



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

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2011

architecture / engineering / site  
**GARY GUY WILSON** **AA** planning / interior design  
**ARCHITECTS**

## Nellis Solar Plant

by Doctor Gary Guy Wilson, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP



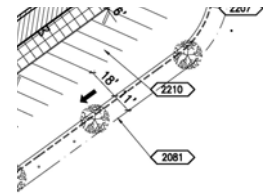
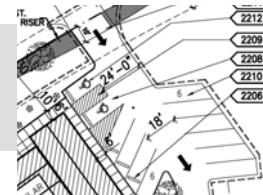
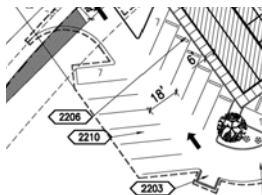
Nellis Air Force Base, is home to North America's largest solar photovoltaic power plant, covering 140 acres, and providing over 14 Megawatts of electricity.

This project was a unique public-private sector partnership using technology from SunPower Corporation and financing by MMA Renewable Ventures, with Nellis Air Force Base being the power purchaser, providing the Host Site, and providing minimal capital investment. This Solar System, will produce an average of 25% of the electricity requirements at the base, where 12,000 people live and work. The system uses a SunPower T20 single-axis solar tracking system to follow the path of the sun.

The system reportedly cost \$100 million and will provide power to Nellis at a fixed rate for 20 years. Renewable Energy Credits will be sold to Nevada Power.

The system will reduce CO2 emissions by 24,000 tons annually, equivalent to planting 260,000 trees or removing 185,000 cars from the roadways. It has the annual energy output of 30,100,000 kWh, enough to power the equivalent of 13,200 homes. The annual Air Force savings is \$1 million. There are 72,416 solar panels with 5,891,328 solar cells. **Saving on energy on a mass scale, right in our own back yard....**

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



## SPOTLIGHT Robert Jones

GGWArchitects client, Robert (Bob) Jones, Facilities Manager for Nye County, is coming full-circle. Born in West Virginia, he is returning to his roots, when his retirement begins in March, 2012 after 18 very rewarding years with Nye County,

Bob found work immediately out of high school in West Virginia, remodeling stores for the State Liquor Commission. Bob then moved onto other maintenance positions at Libbey-Owens Glass, his uncles' automotive shop in South Florida, and motels in North Carolina before meeting a property owner, who convinced him to move with him to Pahrump.

Bob's wealth of experience qualified him for a maintenance position at Nye County. He was promoted to Building and Grounds Foreman and then put in charge of the County animal shelter. His responsibilities also included handling all Nye County vehicles.

Today, Bob is in charge of "light duty" equipment. He's also proud of his status as sole County Locksmith! Much of Bob's attention goes toward new buildings and remodels. The County is currently building a new 225-bed jail, working closely with contractors and architects. Bob has also earned a number of certifications, enhancing his rich career.

Bob manages a staff of 15, a significant drop from the 33 in his department before the economy fell. The County is doing all it can to postpone further layoffs this year. Bob's department is enforcing an unpaid "furlough" day every third Friday, and Nye County is issuing no more pay raises.

The Yucca Mountain project had provided Nye County with Federal funding for capital improvements. "Our Commissioners are fighting to keep Yucca Mountain alive. That's how we have been able to build anything over the last 20 years."

Nye County first contracted with GGWArchitects in 2010 on the Nye County Detention Center and the Health & Human Services Building, They've paired up again on the Nye County Municipal Complex at Highway 160 in 2011.

Bob has enjoyed working with GGW Architects Business Development Professional, Les W. Travis. "I am fine with your service, says Bob". Les has been responsive to what I've needed." As for future work, Bob believes we're qualified. Past RFQ submittals have shown us to be "very competent and capable." It's been nice having Bob in our corner. We will miss him, but we know he is anxious to begin a new chapter in his life with his wife, Sue, and stepdaughter, Melanie, back in West Virginia!

# GGWArchitects<sup>2</sup>