

SOLAR TRAFFIC CONTROLS

“Wireless” Traffic Control Solutions

APPLICATION: *Deer Crossing Flashers and Traffic Calming Systems*

LOCATION: *U. S. Highway 70, New Mexico Hondo Valley Project*

Description

Made possible by a joint effort of the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the U.S. 70 Hondo Valley project started construction August 2002 and was completed in August 2005. The goal: to widen a two-lane highway to four lanes with wide shoulders and turning lanes to reduce accidents and improve traffic flow.

The area – in southeast New Mexico from Ruidoso Downs to Riverside – is frequented by heavy traffic with a high rate of accidents and fatalities averaging 10 to 12 deaths a year. With 350 private entrances exiting onto U.S. 70, residents turning off and on the highway to access facilities and services along the route were exposed to the dangers of a narrow two-lane, winding roadway with no turning lanes.

"Based on our previous experience with solar power systems and radio activated systems," said Joe Wise, president of Solar Traffic Controls (STC), "our proposal was chosen for the project. STC was given the order to produce deer crossing flashers and traffic calming systems employing radar speed signs and flashing beacons along the 38-mile Hondo Valley portion of US 70."

Twenty-two STC units were sold and installed by Bixby Electric of Albuquerque. Two of the units were deer crossing warning flashers, basically school zone flashers designed to run 7 days a week: 4 hours in the morning and 4 hours in the evening as deer are diurnal, i.e., active two times a day – morning and evening. An STC-designed time clock was incorporated into each unit enabling adjustment on a month-by-month or quarterly basis to compensate for the time shift in sunrise and sunset. The units turn on every day, 2 hours before the official sunrise and sunset.

Of the remaining 20 systems installed, 10 were radar speed controls and 10 radar-activated flashers constituting a set of devices for traffic calming. These devices advise approaching drivers their speed using the radar feedback. If they are speeding, the unit "radios" 500 feet down the road and activates two, 12-inch solar-powered flashers with the posted speed limit so drivers will decrease their speed. Every town along the route received a radar speed display on the entry of each side of town coupled with a solar-powered flasher.



Deer crossing warning flasher on U. S. 70 Hondo Valley, New Mexico



Radar speed control for traffic calming

Provide Your Requirements to Solar Traffic Controls

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____
Cellular (____) _____
e-mail _____

The success of your solar-powered project is based on three things:

- **Location: where your application site is - nearest town and state**
- **Load: number and size of lamps, timers and other controls - anything which draws power.**
- **Duty Cycle: hours per day and number of days per week the load is active (on).**

The above information enables us to provide you with a Sizing Report which forms the basis of your warranty.

Type of System

(please check your requirements)

Solar Flasher

Lamp Size: 12 inches 8 inches Other - Please indicate size _____
Lamps per pole: 1 2 Other - Please indicate quantity _____
Lamp Color: Amber Red
Type: School Zone 24-Hour Sensor Activated
Run time: _____ hours per day _____ # of days per week
Module Option: Vandal Resistant Activation: Timer Pager

DCUPS Flasher

Lamp Size: 12 inches 8 inches Other - Please indicate size _____
Lamps per pole: 1 2 Other - Please indicate quantity _____
Lamp Color: Amber Red
Type: School Zone 24-Hour Sensor Activated
Run time: _____ hours per day _____ # of days per week
Module Option: Vandal Resistant Activation: Timer Pager

Sensor Power System

Sensor load: _____ amps/watts
Communications Load: _____ amps/watts

Location

Application Site (nearest town): _____
State/Province: _____

Please fill in your requirements with **blue or black pen**. Please **fax** to Solar Traffic Controls at 480-449-9367.

Questions? Please call us at 480-449-0222. We will contact you with a quote for your system.



For more information

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