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New Orleans Solar School Initiative

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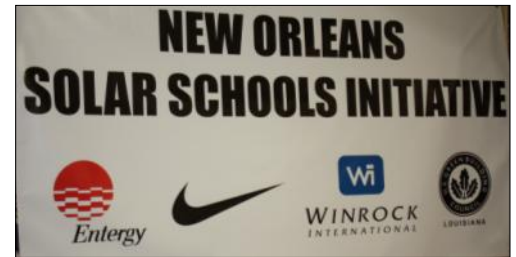


Warren Easton school students nearby one of the solar panels at their school's rooftop.



American Carbon Registry founding members Nike and Entergy have both taken major voluntary actions to reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions. A Registry offset transaction between the two ignited an idea to not only benefit the environment, but also local communities devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The two companies wanted to co-fund a project that would help to rebuild the community, benefit the environment and provide education on sustainability, and the New Orleans Solar School Initiative (NOSSI) was launched.

As seed funding, Nike reinvested the proceeds from the carbon offset sale to Entergy, and Entergy committed up to \$1.5 million for the project, which will equip four New Orleans schools with advanced solar power technology. In addition to supporting the benefits of clean, alternative energy, the NOSSI project also includes an educational component through which each school will teach students about energy conservation and renewable energy. The solar equipment will provide a hands-on learning experience for students and teachers alike. Winrock's Environmental Resources Trust (ERT) is managing the project. Other project partners include the Louisiana Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the city of New Orleans Energy Unit and the U.S. Department of Energy. Construction on the first school began in July 2009.



Winrock International is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources.



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