**NEWS RELEASE** August 17, 2016 MEDIA INQUIRIES: Allison Getty | (703) 875-4357

## **USTDA ADVANCES SOLAR POWER IN PANAMA**

ARLINGTON, VA – The U.S. Trade and Development Agency awarded a grant to Parque Solar Panamá, S.A. for a feasibility study supporting one of the first utility-scale solar photovoltaic power plants in Panama. The feasibility study will assess the technical, commercial and environmental viability of developing a 40 megawatt solar power project located southwest of Panama City.

This project supports the goals of the <u>Clean Energy Finance Facility for the Caribbean and Central America</u> (CEFF-CCA), an inter-agency initiative to catalyze greater public and private sector investment in clean energy infrastructure across Central America and the Caribbean. This is the third grant that USTDA has awarded as part of the CEFF-CCA initiative.

"USTDA is pleased to partner with Parque Solar Panamá on this important renewable energy project," said Nathan Younge, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean. "Solar power has a strong potential for expansion in Panama. USTDA looks forward to continuing to support additional clean energy initiatives in the region under the CEFF-CCA initiative."

"We appreciate USTDA's support to help us move this project forward," said Franklin Chalmers, President of Parque Solar Panamá. "This solar plant will help Panama increase its supply of renewable energy and reduce its carbon dioxide emissions."

Businesses interested in submitting proposals for this USTDA-funded feasibility study should visit the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) website at <a href="https://www.ustda.gov/business-opportunities">www.fbo.gov</a>. A link to the FBO announcement will be posted to USTDA's website at <a href="https://www.ustda.gov/business-opportunities">https://www.ustda.gov/business-opportunities</a>.

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The U.S. Trade and Development Agency helps companies create U.S. jobs through the export of U.S. goods and services for priority development projects in emerging economies. USTDA links U.S. businesses to export opportunities by funding project planning activities, pilot projects, and reverse trade missions while creating sustainable infrastructure and economic growth in partner countries.