

"SOLARGATE"

WHITE HOUSE SOLAR SYSTEM REMOVAL

MAJOR POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

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The solar water heating system on the White House was designed so the system would never need to be removed for any amount of roof repair. It was placed on legs high enough to work under and around. The system virtually could not have "caused leaks".

The system was still quite young when it was removed. The tanks were of a standard design known to easily last over 15 years and virtually could not have been "rusting away". In fact they were possibly still under warranty if the system was removed in 1984 or sooner. With care, the system could have lasted over 50 years.

The White House solar system was capable of contributing over 350,000 BTU's per day. That is a savings equivalent of between 4 and 5 gallons of fuel oil per day or, for this area, the yearly equivalent of over 1,000 gallons of fuel oil saved per year.

I understand the White House uses a central coal fired steam plant for energy. These are very inefficient considering the losses of energy to the ground let alone extremely polluting. The White House solar system preheated water that would have been heated by the steam system. This freed the steam energy for better uses. The pollution thus caused to heat water at the White House by coal would be reduced by over 50,000 lb/yr by solar.

In conclusion, it would appear that the spokespersons for the system were not given the true reason for the removal of the solar system during the Reagan years. Somewhere along the way there was a cover-up of the real reason for the removal of the system.

Solar properly backed by the government and the utilities has the potential to provide power equal to under 3 cents per KWH. It is completely clean and free of negative environmental impact.

Solar water systems work in all parts of the country, are easy to install and, when produced in volume, can cost under \$1,000.

The industry needs these facts to be recognized and placed in front of the public's eyes, the symbol of its potential should not be asleep in a dusty government warehouse. Let's wake up, millions of these systems should be installed every year! Every million systems displaces the need for a large, polluting power plant, low cost, no pollution, quick usage, what more is needed?

