COALINGA PROJECT FACTS
A BRIGHTSOURCE ENERGY CONCENTRATING SOLAR POWER PROJECT

Chevron selected BrightSource to provide its proprietary solar technology for a solar thermal enhanced oil recovery (EOR) demonstration facility. The successful pilot project operated from 2011-2014, showing that solar thermal technology can be used effectively for thermal enhanced oil recovery applications.

COALINGA AT A GLANCE
- **Location:** Coalinga, CA
- **Size:** 100 acres
- **Power Production:** 29 MW thermal
- **Customer:** Chevron
- **Project Operation:** 2011-2014

**USING SOLAR ENERGY FOR EOR YIELDS SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS:**
- Increases oil production with zero emissions (and other particulates)
- Creates jobs and economic opportunities
- Extends natural gas supplies for use in other applications
- Provides a clean, abundant and economically-attractive fuel source for heavy-oil fields in remote locations where natural gas is not always available
ABOUT ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY

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CONCENTRATED SUNLIGHT IS FOCUSED ON BrightSource’s power receiver above a pumpjack at Chevron’s Coalinga oil field.

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HOW SOLAR THERMAL EOR WORKS

BrightSource’s solar thermal energy system uses fields of tracking mirrors, known as heliostats, controlled by proprietary software to concentrate sunlight onto a solar boiler atop a tower. This boiler produces high-temperature, high-pressure steam, which is pumped deep into a subsurface oil reservoir in order to heat the area. This increases the pressure of the reservoir and reduces the viscosity of the oil, making it easier to bring to the surface. To conserve water use, the steam is then cooled and recycled.

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