

Title: **Solar Power Plant in Honduras**

Date: 2014-2015

Scope:

Engineering, Procurement, Construction, Start-up (EPC)

Location:

Choluteca - Honduras.

About First Solar USA:

First Solar is a company dedicated to the production of photovoltaic modules, with headquarters in the United States and production plants in Germany, Malaysia and the USA. **First Solar** manufactures thin film photovoltaic modules and offers integrated solutions for photovoltaic systems.

Executive Summary:

Project Management contract for a 50 MW solar power plant. Engineering and equipment were prepared in USA by client. Construction was carried out by a Honduran construction company.

Vepica's scope covered:

- Contract management
- Site quality auditing
- Supervision of civil and structural work
- Supervision of equipment installation and connection of all the project generation facilities
- Project site office management
- Site cost controls
- General project administration at the site
- Site safety management
- Management of environmental requirements and meeting all applicable environmental laws, permit regulations, and site restrictions
- Project start-up, commissioning, and testing
- Project records and document control.

Challenges:

- Organizing a bilingual work team on a multidisciplinary project, from: execution of geotechnical studies, topography, civil and electromechanical works to commissioning of a project for 25 MW photovoltaic energy in a town with very few resources and a local sub-contractor with no experience in Photovoltaic Projects.
- An inexperienced Client who was executing a project of this nature for the first time and with many changes to the scope, on a very tight budget and in a short execution

time, and projected to execute civil works during the winter period

- Execution of work on weekends and extra hours.
- Project integrated by professionals from three countries USA, Honduras and Venezuela) with four different companies and different corporate cultures.
- Learning all safety and environmental requirements and practices (EHS Guidelines) established by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), applicable to all industry sectors.

Vepica Solutions:

- Vepica provided support services for Logistics, Quality, Planning, Security and Start-up to the client. The result is a Photovoltaic Solar Energy plant designed to have a capacity of over 50 MW (AC), capable of supplying power to 8,600 homes
- Thanks to our Supervision and successful Coordination, this project took just 8 months and began producing energy for the network by the end of June 2015.

