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SELF Increases Lending Activity By 300%

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The Solar and Energy Loan Fund (SELF) is pleased to announce that the non-profit community lending organization will finish Fiscal Year 2015 (at the end of September) with more than a 300% increase in lending activity over last year. SELF closed 185 loans this fiscal year for a total of \$1.4 million in lending, compared to 59 loans last year for a total of \$452,000.

SELF also achieved several other major milestones this fiscal year, including: 1) Reaching \$3 million in total lending; 2) Raising more than \$1 million in new loan capital; 3) Executing the first consulting contract; 4) Operationalizing St. Lucie County's new Commercial Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program; 5) Establishing worldwide crowdfunding via KIVA.org; 6) Developing the new "Veterans Helping Veterans" program in partnership with the Green Veterans Group; 7) Increasing the contractor base to 128; and, 8) Expanding lending activities into 15 counties and 33 jurisdictions throughout the Sunshine State.

SELF's Executive Director, Doug Coward, said, "It's clear from these results that there is significant demand for our unique services throughout Florida." He added, "I am very proud of the SELF team and the collective work of our board, staff, and many partners to help working-class families identify and finance much-needed sustainable home improvement projects."

SELF provides building science expertise, low-cost financing for sustainable home improvement projects, and project management from start to finish. SELF finances new roofs, windows, doors, air conditioners, solar water heaters, LED lights, hurricane shutters, weatherization, and more. The non-profit organization was created in 2010 and has since raised more than \$7 million in grants and loan capital and financed nearly 500 sustainable home improvement projects valued at nearly \$4 million. More than 2/3rds of the lending activity has occurred in low- and moderate-income communities, 40% for women, and 20% for military families and veterans.

SELF's Chief Financial Officer, Duanne Andrade, also emphasized, "Despite our explosive growth, we are proud to have maintained high quality service and prudent lending practices, with client satisfaction rates of over 98% and default and delinquency rates below 1%."

For more information about SELF, you can contact the organization by telephone at # (772) 468-1818 or visit www.solarenergyloanfund.org.