



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Boisset Family Estates Cements Commitment to Sustainable Winegrowing:
*DeLoach Vineyards and Raymond Vineyards to be Powered Entirely by Solar Power and
Raymond Vineyards Certified Organic by the California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) and
Certified Biodynamic® by Demeter USA***

St. Helena, CA (May 8, 2013) – Boisset Family Estates, and its California wineries Raymond Vineyards and DeLoach Vineyards, today announced significant achievements that further its sustainable winegrowing commitment. Both Raymond Vineyards and DeLoach Vineyards will be 100 percent solar powered with the completion of solar installations this summer; and Raymond Vineyard's Napa Valley estate vineyards in Rutherford and St. Helena became certified organic by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF), and certified Biodynamic® by Demeter USA.

Jean-Charles Boisset, proprietor of Raymond Vineyards, began implementing organic and Biodynamic farming practices very soon after purchasing the winery in August of 2009; adherence to organic and Biodynamic farming practices is a hallmark of Boisset properties worldwide. At Raymond, in accordance with the *Demeter Biodynamic® Farm Standard*, the winery set aside ten percent of its estate to biodiversity, which includes the Raymond Theater of Nature, Napa Valley's most comprehensive, interactive tour of Biodynamic farming that leads guests through five acts – soil, plants, animals, the vineyardist and wholeness – that elucidates Raymond's philosophy of sustainable, organic and Biodynamic farming practices through exhibits, seminars, and a self-guided audio tour available on mobile phones at www.theaterofnature.com.

Inspired by its long-standing commitment to farming responsibly, Boisset Family Estates began installation of solar systems at DeLoach Vineyards and Raymond Vineyards this winter; Raymond's installation will be complete in time for it to host the Napa Valley Vintner's Friday Napa Valley Barrel Auction as part of this year's Auction Napa Valley. By this summer, both wineries will receive 100 percent of their power from the solar panels.

Jean-Charles Boisset, president of Boisset Family Estates, enthusiastically stated, "The evolution of our California wineries to 100 percent renewable energy extends a long-held family commitment to stewardship of our lands and our irreplaceable *terroir*. We farm not for this generation, but for the generations to follow. We listen to the rhythms of nature in pursuit of authentic wines that respect the living life of the vineyards, now and for the future."

Raymond Vineyards will become the largest 100 percent solar powered winery in Napa, according to utility provider Blue Sky Utility, a comprehensive developer of renewable energy systems that led Boisset's solar installation. Blue Sky Utility, along with BPI as contractor, designed, constructed, and maintains Raymond's solar energy system which includes more than 50,000 square feet of panels on the winery's roofs and a 17,000 square foot solar canopy, which also helps reduce energy by providing a covered, shaded area that will be utilized during harvest and to store fermentation tanks, reducing the amount of energy required to control their temperature.

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It will generate over 1 million kWh per year, offsetting 758 tons of greenhouse gas emissions each year. This is the equivalent of planting 3,790 new trees. The solar system at DeLoach will produce over 300,000 kWh/year, offsetting 100 percent of its electrical usage and eliminating 232 tons of greenhouse gas emissions each year, which is the equivalent of planting 1,162 trees. In total, Boisset's solar panels are expected to produce more than 1.3 million kWh/year, offsetting 990 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. Both wineries, as well as Buena Vista Winery in Sonoma, will also have electric vehicle charging stations for guests arriving to the winery in their electric cars.

Boisset has a long-standing commitment to organic and Biodynamic farming, of which its CCOF and Demeter certification at Raymond Vineyards is the most recent example. The family began farming according to Biodynamic principles in Burgundy in 1994, where it was an early leader in embracing Biodynamic methods. Today, Domaine de la Vougeraie, the family's estate uniting a collection of the most prestigious, historical vineyards in Burgundy, is the leading organic and Biodynamic domaine in the Cote d'Or with more than 95 acres under cultivation. In California, Boisset first began implementing Biodynamic farming at DeLoach Vineyards, which was certified organic by CCOF in 2008 and Biodynamic by Demeter in 2010. Boisset's commitment to Biodynamic farming is articulated in Raymond's Theater of Nature, where guests learn that all Biodynamic culture is organic, but not all organic culture is Biodynamic. The Biodynamic insight, promulgated by the Austrian philosopher Rudolf Steiner in the early 20th Century, is that a farm or garden lies between the cosmos above and the earth below, and is heavily influenced by both. Planting is therefore done by calendar and moon phases. The garden or farm is conceived as a whole, single, living organism of plants and animals that can be brought into self-regulating balance with as few outside inputs as possible.

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About Boisset Family Estates

Boisset Family Estates is a family-owned producer and importer of fine wines founded in Burgundy, France in 1961. Boisset's collection of more than twenty historical and unique wineries boasts leading positions in the world's pre-eminent *terroirs*, including Burgundy, Beaujolais, the Rhône Valley, the South of France, Canada, and California's Russian River Valley, Napa Valley, Sonoma County and Monterey. One of the world's foremost producers of Pinot Noir and principal proponents of organic and Biodynamic viticulture, Boisset crafts fine wines with a strict terroir approach: each house in its family of wineries has a unique history, identity, and style, yet all are united in the pursuit of superior quality. To learn more about Boisset Family Estates, please visit www.boissetfamilyestates.com.

About Blue Sky Utility

Blue Sky Utility is a renewable energy developer providing custom solar solutions for large facilities. Our highly experienced team offers a one-stop-shop to maximize efficiency by providing innovative financing solutions, optimizing structure surfaces, and utilizing the most trusted roof specialists and contractors in the industry to offer complete systems engineered to last. We've already installed more than 1 million sq. ft. of combined power in California alone, helping facilities save thousands in utility bills each month. Blue Sky Utility combines extensive engineering knowledge with financial expertise to create custom solar energy solutions that work for each facility's specific requirements and needs. For more information and a list of clients, visit www.blueskyutility.com

About BPi

BPi is a leading EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) contractor of solar energy installations. Based in California with services nationwide, the company designs, installs and manages advanced photovoltaic systems for large commercial and utility-scale applications. BPi's main objective is to construct and operate the co-generation systems, retaining projects under BPi management for maximum efficiency and profitability. BPi uses A-grade resources that are proficient with a proven track record. This ensures the long-term sustainable efficient generation of the co-generation system and offsets the risk for the system owners. For more information and a list of projects, visit www.bpi-power.com