

March 07, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

We write to emphasize to you our continued, shared commitment to addressing the climate crisis in a way that supports domestic clean energy manufacturing jobs. As you stated in your State of the Union address: we need not continue to rely on foreign supply chains, we can make it in America. As American solar manufacturers, we remain committed to achieving this goal to reshore the solar supply chain and build our clean energy future in America.

The fact is, the industry is entering a critical inflection point – one that could result in the United States creating thousands of jobs and reshoring the entire solar supply chain – or losing the domestic solar manufacturing industry forever. Unfortunately, recent policy decisions have reduced the necessary market certainty for domestic solar manufacturers to invest in large-scale projects to reshore the solar supply chain. As a result, enacting long-term, durable policy solutions to attract and sustain domestic solar manufacturing at every step – such as the Solar Energy Manufacturing for America Act (SEMA) – is more important than ever before. We are grateful the House included the core elements of SEMA in their proposed clean energy and climate tax package¹ and the Senate Finance Committee expanded on and incorporated this critical provision in their December draft.²

We estimate that, coupled with the deployment incentives proposed in the Senate draft, the advanced solar manufacturing production tax credit could result in a domestic solar module manufacturing capacity sufficient to meet the 30 GW in projected annual deployment by 2025, resulting in nearly 18,000 direct manufacturing jobs and over 60,000 indirect jobs. We also project to have an entirely domestic solar manufacturing supply chain capable of exceeding domestic demand with nearly 100% American panels, resulting in approximately a total of 30,000 direct manufacturing jobs and over 100,000 indirect jobs by 2030 throughout the solar supply chain.

¹ https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr5376/BILLS-117hr5376rh.pdf

² https://www.finance.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/12.11.21%20Finance%20Text.pdf

This would make the U.S. a competitive global player in solar manufacturing, allowing us to more rapidly increase solar installations while enabling our allies around the world to do the same.

As solar is poised to be the world's leading source of energy by 2040, the U.S. cannot remain reliant on overseas solar supply chains, nor can we assume those monopolized supply chains will continue to keep prices low. Moving from foreign dependence on fossil fuels to foreign dependence on clean energy is not how we can truly build back better and meet our climate targets. SEMA will enhance competition throughout the solar supply chain, with global-scale American factories continuing to press forward cost savings in solar deployment, and bring the country's ambitious climate goals within reach.

We hope to demonstrate that with the right policies in place, we can enter into a new domestic solar manufacturing renaissance that creates tens to hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs. We hope we can count on your leadership to ensure the federal government takes the right steps to support this vital piece of the clean energy economy. Your leadership, along with the leaders in Congress, have brought us to the edge of a transformation in a 100% U.S.-based solar manufacturing supply chain. We can deliver the very revitalization of American manufacturing and pride in stamping solar products "Made in America" you so eloquently called for in your speech. We encourage you to press forward to deliver this win-win for the economy and our fight against climate change.

Sincerely,

Solar Energy Manufacturing for America Coalition, on behalf of

Auxin Solar
Caelux Corporation

CubicPV

First Solar, Inc.

Hanwha O CELLS North America

Heliene

Hemlock Semiconductor Operations LLC

Leading Edge Equipment Technologies

Maxeon Solar Technologies

Meyer Burger Americas

Mission Solar Energy

REC Silicon Inc.

Sunnova Energy International Inc.

Swift Solar

Silfab Solar

Wacker Polysilicon North America