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The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

Your Administration has inherited the daunting task of putting Americans back to work, taking bold action on climate change, and mending the social fabric of our country. America's renewable energy industry applauds your commitment to these defining issues and stands ready to work with you to address the challenges before us.

Over the last four years, the previous Administration imposed Section 201 tariffs on solar cells and panels, which have both cost the economy jobs and hindered our ability to address the climate crisis. Because of these tariffs, we lost 62,000 American job opportunities across the solar value chain and carbon dioxide emissions increased by 26 million metric tons, equivalent to the output of 5.5 million automobiles or 7 coal plants.

On October 10, 2020, the previous Administration issued a punitive and ill-conceived proclamation that stymied the domestic solar industry. Not only did this proclamation call for an increase in the 2021 tariff rate, the proclamation arbitrarily reinstated tariffs on bifacial solar panels. An earlier attempt to reinstate these tariffs has been stayed pending litigation.

These actions did not and will not spur domestic manufacturing. Instead, they created significant business uncertainty, added new costs to solar projects that were already contracted, and delayed numerous solar projects. We can no longer miss the opportunity to create new, well-paying jobs across the country, including construction and skilled trades jobs.

The good news is that it is not too late – or difficult – to course correct. By rescinding the previous Administration's October 10, 2020, solar tariff proclamation, your Administration will restore business certainty and immediately kickstart one of America's most promising industries.

Our companies, which represent a nationwide workforce, and billions of dollars in annual solar investments, are eager to put more boots on the ground constructing and operating renewable energy projects. And like so many Americans concerned about the climate crisis, we are also deeply motivated to preserve a stable environment for our children. Restoring sensible trade policies is an immediate step toward meeting your ambitious climate targets and will help build back better with a thriving energy workforce.

We applaud your goal of reaching 100% carbon-free electricity generation by 2035. To meet this ambitious target, our nation must deploy 1,200 gigawatts of wind, solar, and energy storage, which necessitates building at an annual pace that is nearly eight times faster than the past decade. We are confident that with the right policies, we can both rapidly deploy clean energy infrastructure and bolster domestic manufacturing to meet this growing demand.

Despite trade policy headwinds, America's solar and wind industries today employ more than 300,000 individuals across all 50 states. We have merely scratched the surface of clean energy's potential. As a dynamic and fast-growing sector of the economy, we will make a substantial contribution towards addressing the climate crisis and helping the country recover from the economic harm caused by the pandemic. Rescinding the punitive October 10, 2020, proclamation is an immediate step that would help meet our shared climate and economic goals.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. We stand ready to work constructively with your Administration as we strive to address the daunting challenges facing our nation.

Sincerely,

Abigail Ross Hopper President & CEO

Solar Energy Industries Association

Ben Catt

CEO

Pine Gate Renewables

Heather Zicha

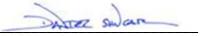
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