

# New York Solar Energy Industries Association

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May 7, 2007

Congressman Charles Rangel  
15<sup>th</sup> Congressional District – District Office  
163 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 737  
New York, NY 10027

Dear Rep. Rangel,

I am writing on behalf of the New York Solar Energy Industries Association (NYSEIA), the only trade and membership organization in New York dedicated solely to increasing solar energy use throughout the state.

I am writing to ask that you please prioritize the Solar Tax Incentive Provision of **Securing America's Energy Independence Act, H.R. 550**, as Congress moves to enact solar energy legislation. Please use your influence as Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee to enact an 8-year extension of the federal tax credit for solar energy. This legislation would add high-paying jobs and investment in your district (and throughout New York), and would be consistent with federal and state policies to increase the use of reliable, secure, renewable energy resources throughout the nation.

Currently, more than 100 companies in New York manufacture, distribute, sell, or install a wide variety of products that use solar energy to produce electricity, heat buildings, and provide hot water for residences, businesses, industries, churches, schools, and recreational facilities. Some, such as Duce Construction, are located right in your district. Overall, New York solar companies employed from 500-1,000 workers in 2006, and generated an estimated \$25-30 million in annual revenue. Nationally, the solar industry is growing at about 30% per year; New York companies report similar growth.

The **Securing America's Energy Independence Act** will support the solar industry's growth by extending the solar Investment Tax Credit (ITC) through 2016. This long-term policy will provide the stability needed to make major new investments in solar infrastructure and to create high quality jobs. The longer the tax credits are in place, the faster the cost of solar energy will decline as the industry achieves economies of scale.

Sincerely,

Christine Donovan  
Executive Vice President