



May 4, 2009

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

Dear Mr. President,

In your first address to Congress you called on the United States to increase the amount of energy generated from renewable sources, transmit this carbon-free energy to all Americans, and avoid catastrophic climate change. You specifically highlighted the pivotal role to be played by solar energy technologies in meeting this challenge. We were buoyed by your message and look forward to working with you, and your Administration, to ensure that this laudable vision is realized. Thank you.

To succeed in realizing your vision, and solar energy's prominent role in securing the same, we must quickly and efficiently implement the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)*. With this goal in mind, I am writing to share the solar energy industries' recommendations on how ARRA can best be implemented. As you may know, the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) has nine hundred member companies and is the voice of the industry. SEIA works to make solar a significant energy source to power and safeguard America's future.

Please find attached SEIA's recommendations on implementing ARRA. We believe that our suggestions will prove invaluable in helping your Administration jumpstart the American economy in the immediate, near- and long-term. Much is riding on ARRA's successful execution and we are prepared to work with you and your Administration on matters large and small to secure its success.

Solar energy is affordable, carbon-free, and available in every region of our country. It is an economic engine that currently supports more than 70,000 well-paying jobs. Every megawatt of solar (enough power for 150 homes) that is manufactured and installed in the U.S. directly employs more than twenty-four people for a year. Solar manufacturing, installation and system operation employs more Americans per unit of energy than any other energy source. Thanks to your leadership, the solar industry is poised to create an additional 60,000 jobs across the entire economy, install a gigawatt of solar power, and avoid more than one million tons of carbon emissions in 2009 alone. These figures will more than double in 2010.

As we have seen in countries around the globe and in states throughout our country, the continued growth of renewable energy depends on the right combination of public policies. With the speedy and efficient implementation of ARRA's provisions, the solar energy industry is ready to play a starring role, ushering in our clean energy future.

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We look forward to complementing your continued solar energy leadership. Together we can accomplish more in the next four years than has ever been done in history to realize a clean, renewable energy future. Thank you again for supporting solar energy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rhone Resch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rhone" being more prominent than the last name "Resch".

Rhone Resch
President and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Vice President Joseph R. Biden
Secretary Timothy F. Geithner, Department of the Treasury
Secretary Steven Chu, Department of Energy
Commissioner Douglas Shulman, Internal Revenue Service
Acting Administrator Paul F. Prouty, General Services Administration
Chair Nancy Sutley, White House Council on Environmental Quality
The Honorable Carol Browner, Office of Energy and Climate Change Policy
Chairman Jon Wellinghoff, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
The Honorable Harry Reid
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
The Honorable Max Baucus
The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
The Honorable Charles Rangel
The Honorable Henry Waxman