



July 15, 2010

Representative Jay Inslee
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4701

Dear Representative Inslee:

On behalf of more than 1,000 companies and over 50,000 employees that make up the U.S. solar energy industry, the Solar Energy Industries Association expresses its support for your legislation, H.R. 5692, the *Americans Making Power Act*. This bill provides for comprehensive national net metering and interconnection standards for customer-sited solar and other renewable energy systems. These standards would create a national marketplace for solar energy by ensuring that customers who purchase solar systems are able to connect to the grid and receive fair compensation for the energy their systems produce. We look forward to working with you to further refine and improve this bill as it moves forward through the legislative process.

Net metering is the ability of customers to reduce or eliminate their energy bill by offsetting the energy used at night with energy produced by a solar system during the day. While the vast majority of states have established net metering regulations, these standards vary widely in scope and effectiveness. The *Americans Making Power Act* would significantly improve many state standards that unfairly disadvantage customer-sited solar energy systems, and establish strong net metering standards in states where they are currently absent. This would allow millions more Americans to reduce or eliminate their electricity bills by going solar.

Interconnection standards allow customers to connect their solar system to the grid promptly and without excessive fees or insurance requirements. A streamlined interconnection standard is critical for solar customers to take advantage of net metering. Again, while most states have existing standards, the *Americans Making Power Act* would bring these standards up to the minimum level needed to allow for the widespread adoption of solar energy while preserving the ability of states to further encourage distributed renewable energy. Establishing these two national standards would significantly encourage solar energy use at no cost to the federal government.

We appreciate your enthusiasm for and dedication to solar technologies, your willingness to take the lead in supporting and encouraging this growing industry, and most of all, the vision you have shown in taking measures today to ensure the nation's technological and environmental leadership in the twenty-first century. Passing this important legislation will send a message that it is time to diversify our energy portfolio and expand the clean energy industry here in the US. By investing in solar, the US will create thousands of new jobs in manufacturing and installation, save consumers money on their electricity bills, and reduce the amount of harmful and dangerous pollutants in our atmosphere.

Once again, we support the *Americans Making Power Act*, and we applaud you for leading the way to a clean energy future for our country. As always, thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rhone Resch". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Rhone Resch, President & CEO