



Michael Johnston
Executive Director Standards and Safety
National Electrical Contractors Association
3 Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 1100
Bethesda, MD 20814

March 21, 2011

Dear Mr. Johnston,

The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) thanks you for the opportunity to submit comments to the NEIS/NECA Standard for Installing Photovoltaic Power Systems. We encourage NECA to continue to use the open-development process for such standards, and to seek the advice of the solar industry and SEIA on any future solar-related standards.

SEIA is the national trade association for the solar industry. Through advocacy and education, SEIA is working to build a strong solar industry to power America. As the voice of the industry, SEIA works with its 1,000 member companies to make solar a mainstream and significant energy source by expanding markets, removing market barriers, strengthening the industry, and educating the public on the benefits of solar energy. SEIA represents solar companies across a variety of solar energy technologies, including photovoltaic, solar heating and cooling, and concentrating solar power. SEIA members include manufacturers, distributors, contractors, installers, financiers, and project developers of solar energy.

As the solar industry continues its rapid growth, codes and standards have become increasingly important to the industry. The solar industry experienced dramatic growth in 2010. For example, over 52,000 new photovoltaic systems were connected to the grid in 2010. In addition, eight individual states installed over 1,000 new systems in 2010.

We look forward utilizing the NEIS process as an avenue to address issues related to codes and standards, and to ensure the safe deployment of solar energy technologies.

The full-text of our comments is attached to this letter. If you have any questions about these comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 556-2894 or ccovington@seia.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Covington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Covington, Manager of Government Affairs