



Solar Industry Commitment to Environmental & Social Responsibility

One of SEIA's top priorities is to help ensure a sustainable solar supply chain globally. In support of this mission, SEIA is taking proactive steps to promote environmental and social responsibility within the industry.

Development of Statement of Environmental & Social Responsibility

In 2010, SEIA established the Environment, Health & Safety Committee (EHS Committee), comprised of more than 40 solar industry representatives from nearly every aspect of the global solar value chain, including both U.S. and foreign-based organizations. In 2011, the EHS Committee began developing a set of solar industry guidelines to promote environmental and social responsibility.

This work led to the creation of a *Solar Industry Commitment to Environmental and Social Responsibility (Commitment)*. This document serves as a guide to the solar industry and promotes the implementation of environmental and social responsibility best practices throughout the industry.

The *Commitment*, which may be adopted by companies throughout the solar supply chain, is a voluntary document that is designed to evolve as the industry grows. It includes provisions regarding the environment, labor, ethics, health and safety, and management systems.

The *Commitment* was drafted with significant input from the solar industry, as well as external environmental regulation, labor and ethics experts. SEIA also partnered with a leading Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) firm to assist with the development of the *Commitment*.

SEIA Environment, Health & Safety Initiatives

- Solar Panel Collection & Recycling
- Installer Health & Safety
- Fire Safety
- Building Codes & Product Standards

Learn more from SEIA's web site at www.SEIA.org.

Next Steps: Solar Sustainability Roadmap

Now that the *Commitment* is complete, the CSR firm will help develop an industry guide on implementation of the ESR Statement principles. In addition, the EHS Committee, with input from the CSR firm, will develop a long-term *Solar Sustainability Roadmap* designed to (1) build upon SEIA's important work to date and (2) expand SEIA's efforts to help ensure a sustainable solar supply-chain globally.

About the Solar Energy Industries Association

Established in 1974, the Solar Energy Industries Association® is the national trade association of the U.S. solar energy industry. Through advocacy and education, SEIA and its 1,000 member companies are building a strong solar industry to power America. As the voice of the industry, SEIA works 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.

For a referenced version of this factsheet and more information, please visit www.seia.org.