Oppose H.J. Res. 39

This resolution would undermine efforts to ramp up domestic solar panel manufacturing

On February 8, 2022, a single company filed anti-circumvention petitions with the Department of Commerce that wreaked havoc in the U.S. solar industry. The threat of retroactive duties ranging from 50% - 250% on solar panels and cells from Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia called for in the petitions abruptly froze the industry’s supply chains. Nearly 75% of domestic solar projects experienced cancellations or delays as a result.

To address this significant negative disruption, President Biden issued Proclamation 10414 on June 6, 2022. The proclamation gave Commerce authority to issue regulations providing a 2-year moratorium on potential duties while the investigations proceeded. Commerce posted the regulations in the Federal Register on September 16, 2022. H. J. Res. 39 would nullify this rulemaking upon which domestic solar stakeholders have relied to make significant business and economic decisions.

The U.S. currently lacks the capacity to produce solar panels and cells in adequate volumes to meet domestic demand. The 2-year duty moratorium allows planned solar installations to move forward while helping sustain the robust environmental, economic and job-creating benefits offered by the U.S. solar industry.

Passage of H.J. Res. 39 Would Harm the Solar Industry:

In 2021, the U.S. could only manufacture up to 7 GW per year of solar panels — only 1/3 of total domestic demand. However, the U.S. solar industry wants to source equipment domestically and has put forward a roadmap to hit 50 GW of domestic solar manufacturing capacity by 2030. As an industry, solar is working hard to facilitate policies that will help secure its supply chains for years to come.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) tracking of initial public announcements shows forthcoming panel manufacturing capacity totaling 42 GW — on track to meet the 2050 50 GW goal. However, building out manufacturing facilities and all the technology necessary to fully supply the solar industry will take time.

H. J. Res. 39 undermines this progress. Placing retroactive duties on solar cells — an essential component of a solar panel for which there is currently no domestic production — directly undercuts efforts to ramp up domestic solar panel manufacturing.

- Force companies that relied on Commerce’s rulemaking to immediately pay over $1 billion in retroactive duties
- Eliminate 30,000 good-paying U.S. jobs — including 4,000 manufacturing jobs — a $4.2 billion in domestic investment
- Increase CO2 emission by 42 million metric tons
- Cancel 4 gigawatts of planned solar projects representing roughly 14% of the industry’s anticipated deployment this year