

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 28, 2014

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We have seen remarkable growth in the past several years, including a 20 percent increase in the solar workforce in 2013. The vast majority of these well-paying jobs comes from installation of solar systems. As you mentioned in your State of the Union address, "Every four minutes, another American home or business goes solar; every panel pounded into place by a worker whose job can't be outsourced." We hope that your leadership will play a pivotal role to settle an existing trade dispute that threatens to undermine the progress we have made in this renewable energy sector.

The dispute with China over solar goods continues to escalate, and China continues to demonstrate an unwillingness to settle until our domestic solar industry presents unified proposals that remove existing trade restrictions. Therefore, in order to align the domestic solar industry, we ask you to bring people together to develop a negotiated settlement that will lead to growth in all aspects of the solar industry. The full support of the White House is needed to lay the groundwork for a long-term settlement with China.

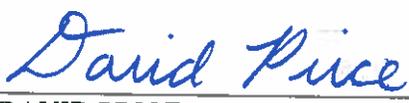
In February of this year, the Department of Commerce commenced another round of anti-dumping investigations into Chinese solar panels, which will likely lead to additional tariffs and further retaliations from the Chinese. Additional tariffs will increase costs for the entire solar supply chain and cause domestic solar prices to rise dramatically. Continuing to let this dispute play out one case at a time will limit job growth, and it may even lead to job loss.

In 2013, the solar industry employed over 140,000 workers, and many solar companies are expecting to add more jobs this year. In fact, solar employment is expected to grow by 15.6 percent this year, which means approximately 22,240 new solar workers. In addition, the solar industry employs more than 13,000 veterans – or 9.2 percent of all solar workers in the nation, and the opportunities for our highly-trained veterans in solar employment continue to grow. We want to see all areas of the industry continue to create high-paying jobs for Americans. From panel sales and installation to polysilicon and component manufacturing, growth in the solar industry is an outstanding opportunity to create high-paying jobs and to enhance our energy security.

We respectfully request that the administration engage with all U.S. stakeholders to resolve this trade dispute with a negotiated solution that ensures the necessary conditions for the solar industry's continued growth. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


SCOTT PETERS
Member of Congress


DAVID PRICE
Member of Congress



MATT CARTWRIGHT
Member of Congress



SUSAN A. DAVIS
Member of Congress



ANN KIRKPATRICK
Member of Congress



RAUL M. GRIJALVA
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MIKE HONDA
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MARK POCAN
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DENNY HECK
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress



G.K. BUTTERFIELD
Member of Congress



RON BARBER
Member of Congress



RAUL RUIZ
Member of Congress

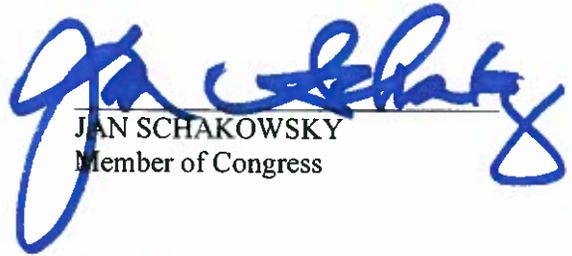


ERIC SWALWELL
Member of Congress

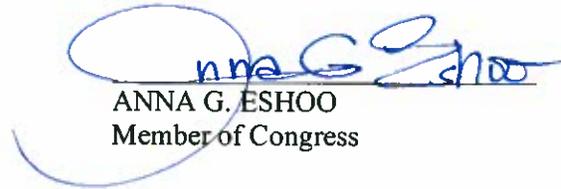


DEREK KILMER
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