



Solar Energy Industry Job Creation Priorities

Treasury Grant Program

The solar industry's top job creation priority is a two year extension of the Treasury Grant Program. Prior to the financial crisis, many renewable energy projects relied upon third party tax equity investors to monetize the value of federal renewable energy incentives. The economic downturn dramatically reduced the availability of tax equity, severely limiting the financing available for renewable energy projects. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 created the Treasury Grant Program, which allows the owner of commercial solar property to receive a 30% grant, in lieu of taking the solar Investment Tax Credit (ITC). Applicants are eligible for the Treasury grant only if they commence construction on projects by December 31, 2010 and complete construction by December 31, 2016. However, guidance and application procedures did not become available until July 2009, cutting months off the program.

Manufacturing Tax Credit

The Solar Manufacturing Jobs Creation Act (H.R. 4085 and S. 2755) would add equipment used to manufacture solar energy generating property to the eligible property list of the existing Section 48 commercial solar investment tax credit (ITC). Current law provides a 30% tax credit for solar energy generating property placed in service in the U.S. before January 1, 2017. The legislation would allow a 30% credit for investments in equipment placed in service in U.S. manufacturing facilities before January 1, 2017. Additionally, the Section 48C manufacturing tax credit established under the Recovery Act should be extended and funded with \$5 billion.

DOE Loan Guarantee Program

Restore the \$2 billion in funding that was stripped from the Loan Guarantee Program. SEIA supports additional programmatic modifications, including an extension of the program; allowing a developer to secure loan guarantees for multiple projects; and establishment of "fast-track" procedures to expedite the disbursement of loan guarantees.

Clean Energy Development Authority

SEIA supports the creation of a Clean Energy Deployment Administration (CEDA) as an independent, wholly owned government corporation to support renewable energy industries via direct loans, loan guarantees, insurance and other credit mechanisms. CEDA would create thousands of jobs in renewable energy, encourage energy generation without raising consumer rates or impairing shareholder value, decrease dependence on foreign oil, increase American competitiveness in renewable energy technology, and reduce carbon emissions.

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. 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.

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