

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 25, 2017

The Honorable Lisa R. Barton
Secretary
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20436

Secretary Barton:

We write to express our support for the Petition for Global Safeguard Relief Pursuant to Section 201-202 of the Trade Act of 1974 – Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells and Modules filed by Suniva. Due to both the over production of solar cells and modules across the world and the intentional circumvention of existing trade remedies, American manufacturers like Suniva are unable to fairly compete with their international counterparts. As a result, we have experienced the loss of hundreds of jobs in our Congressional Districts. The International Trade Commission must do all that is in its power to ensure American companies have an opportunity to compete fairly on a level playing field in the global solar panel manufacturing market.

As the petition clearly shows, there has been an unprecedented surge of imports of solar cells and solar modules over the last few years. This surge of cheap imports has devastated the U.S. industry. In the last five years, thousands of jobs have been lost, over a dozen solar manufacturers have been driven out of business, and now the two remaining large manufacturers, Suniva and SolarWorld, have been forced into bankruptcy. The bankruptcy of the major producers in the industry satisfies any definition of injury.

Furthermore, there has been a rapid rise in imports from countries such as Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Mexico, Canada and other countries after the imposition of trade remedies against unfair imports from China and Taiwan. This clearly demonstrates the need for a global safeguard, as those trade remedies alone are not ensuring a fair marketplace. Only the imposition of a global solution can ensure the survival of a viable domestic solar manufacturing industry.

The devastation of the U.S. solar panel manufacturing industry will negatively impact communities, like ours, where manufacturing occurs and weaken America's technological advantage. The solar cell industry is among the most sophisticated of its kind, and it is in America's interest to maintain both a domestic manufacturing base and the accompanying research and development associated with it. Without a robust domestic manufacturing base for solar panels, we can neither grow the solar industry here at home nor benefit from the next technological breakthroughs.

Finally, the surge in imports threatens our goal of American energy independence and the diversification of our sources of energy. America's goal of sustainable energy independence, through the use of a diverse array of energy sources, requires a viable domestic solar manufacturing sector. Relying solely on imports for solar power technology will make it more difficult to meet the goal of long-term, sustainable American energy independence. A viable

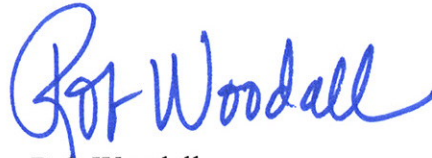
manufacturing sector is a necessity given our shared goal of pursuing sustainable energy independence through the use of a diverse array of energy sources like solar energy.

As the Commission evaluates the facts, we hope that it will be unquestionably clear that global imports have seriously injured our domestic solar manufacturing industry, and for all of the abovementioned reasons, including the job losses in our respective districts, it is critical that the Commission makes an injury determination as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely,



Daniel T. Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Rob Woodall
MEMBER OF CONGRESS