Suniva Strongly Supports Extension of Buy American Provision Waiver to Include Solar Modules Comprised of U.S.-Manufactured Solar Cells


In August 2010, the Department of Energy’s Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy determined that application of section 1605 restrictions would exclude some U.S.-made solar photovoltaic equipment from being utilized in solar installations that receive funds from the Recovery Act. The six-month waiver, which was extended today, allows both U.S.-assembled modules with foreign cells and foreign-assembled modules comprised solely of U.S. cells to qualify under the provisions of the Recovery Act.

“Suniva strongly supports the Department of Energy’s decision to extend the waiver and allow ARRA funding to be applied to solar modules that are composed solely of U.S.-made cells,” said Bryan Ashley, chief marketing officer, Suniva. “This is an important step by the Department of Energy to support American companies manufacturing the part of the solar supply chain that contains the highest value and most intellectual property – the cells. The extension of the Buy American waiver will continue to have a positive impact on the U.S. solar industry, solar project implementation and American job creation.”

The final assembly of solar modules is a relatively simple process of far less value than the manufacturing of the solar cells that power the module. As originally worded, section 1605 could be construed as only requiring that final assembly of solar modules occur in the U.S., regardless of what country other content is manufactured.

With its expanding, diverse and skilled workforce, Suniva is producing world-class technology and generating record-setting screen printed solar cell efficiencies both in the lab and in manufacturing. For more information about Suniva and its products, please visit www.suniva.com.

About Suniva
Based in metro-Atlanta, GA, Suniva® manufactures high-efficiency monocrystalline silicon solar cells and high-power solar modules using patented low-cost techniques. Led by an internationally regarded team of business executives and photovoltaic scientists, the Company leverages exclusive licenses to critical patents and patent-pending intellectual property developed by founder and CTO Dr. Ajeet Rohatgi at
the Georgia Institute of Technology’s University Center of Excellence for Photovoltaic Research, which is funded by the Department of Energy. Suniva sells its advanced solar cells and modules worldwide and is dedicated to making solar generated electricity cost competitive with fossil fuels. For additional information on how Suniva is making solar more sensible in the global market, please visit www.suniva.com.

Media Contact:
Kevin Reilly
fama PR (for Suniva)
617-758-4153
suniva@famapr.com