Georgia is at a crossroads. Cling to the dirty fuels of the past or be part of the solar energy revolution. Already home to one of the world’s leading solar cell manufacturers and 72 solar installers, dealers, and project developers, the state is primed to benefit heavily from solar’s expansion in coming years and any federal climate change legislation, which is designed to even the playing field between clean, renewable energy sources and already subsidized fossil fuels.

The Southeast is a prime location and Georgia in particular, for installing and manufacturing solar. Rooftop photovoltaic (PV) and solar water heating systems are not affected by the region’s humidity, and Georgia’s business friendly government will allow local entrepreneurs to prosper. Examples of this can be seen in states like North Carolina and Florida. North Carolina is one of the top 10 states for solar installation, while Florida Power and Light just switched on the country’s largest PV plant.

New Jersey is not the sunniest place in the world, but today has 4,000 solar installations, more than any state but California, due to a renewable portfolio standard and an advanced renewable incentives program. Georgia can be a hub of this emerging industry, if it embraces solar and the right policies.

Sincerely,

Bryan Ashley, Chief Marketing Officer, Suniva, Inc., Norcross, GA