



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

Secretary Barton,

On behalf of the dozens of solar companies and the [fill in the number] solar workers currently working in my state of Colorado I write today to express my strong opposition to the solar trade case pending before the International Trade Commission that could endanger these solar jobs (Petition for Global Safeguard Relief Pursuant to Section 201-202 of the Trade Act of 1974 – Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Cells and Modules). I am deeply concerned with the potentially devastating impact this trade case could have on the growing solar industry in my state.

This petition was filed by Suniva, a Chinese-owned solar company that has filed for bankruptcy, and supported by SolarWorld, a German-owned solar company. These foreign-owned solar companies are requesting that the federal government impose tariffs on imported solar cells and establish minimum prices on imported solar panels. Solar companies in my state believe that if Suniva and SolarWorld get the trade protection they are demanding, the price of solar panels will double. Increasing costs will stop solar growth dead in its tracks, endangering tens of thousands of American workers in the solar industry and jeopardizing billions of dollars in investment in communities across the country, including my home state. The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) projects that Colorado should have roughly 6,000 solar workers in 2018. But if the punitive tariffs are imposed, SEIA estimates that, Colorado will have 2,000 fewer workers employed in solar due to the new tariffs.

I respectfully request that the Commission carefully and fully consider the negative impact that the high tariffs and minimum prices requested would have on the thousands of solar workers in my state and on the companies that employ them. The Commission should deny the petition for global safeguard relief. The U.S. government should focus its efforts on growing solar manufacturing and installation jobs in America through other, more targeted means.

Sincerely,

COSEIA Member