



September 23, 2009

The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords
United States House of Representatives
1728 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6115

Dear Representative Giffords:

On behalf of more than 1,000 companies and over 40,000 employees that make up the U.S. solar energy industry, the Solar Energy Industries Association thanks you for your leadership on H.R. 3585, the *Solar Technology Roadmap Act*. This bill would dedicate over two billion dollars to new research partnerships and demonstration projects for solar energy technologies.

If enacted, the *Solar Technology Roadmap Act* would have significant economic, energy, and environmental benefits. Establishing a research roadmap and prioritizing federal funding for solar energy research will help commercialize new solar technologies and create new public-private partnerships to make this clean, renewable energy source more affordable and accessible for all Americans.

We appreciate your enthusiasm for and dedication to solar technologies, your willingness to take the lead in supporting and encouraging this growing industry, and most of all, the vision you have shown in taking measures today to ensure the nation's technological and environmental leadership in the twenty-first century.

Passing this important legislation will send a message that it is time to diversify our energy portfolio and expand the clean energy industry here in the US. By investing in solar, the US will create thousands of new jobs in manufacturing and installation, save consumers money on their electricity bills, and reduce the amount of harmful and dangerous pollutants in our atmosphere.

Once again, we strongly support the *Solar Technology Roadmap Act*, and we applaud you for leading the way to a clean energy future for our country. We look forward to working with you pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Rhone Resch". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Rhone Resch
President