Maryland – DC – Virginia
Solar Energy Industries Association
2013 Virginia Legislative Priorities

MDV-SEIA

ABOUT MDV-SEIA

- Maryland, DC, Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association (MDV-SEIA) is a local chapter of the national Solar Energy Industries Association representing solar energy equipment designers, manufacturers, vendors, installers and maintainers
- MDV-SEIA membership includes more than 100 companies and represents more than 2,000 jobs
- Founded in 1984, MDV-SEIA has partnered closely with MD and DC policy makers and utilities to develop workable, business-friendly solutions that can be passed by the General Assembly or implemented at the Commission

www.mdv-seia.org

A SNAPSHOT OF THE U.S. SOLAR INDUSTRY IN 2012

- As of August 2011, there were over 100,000 solar workers in the United States, working for 5,600 business[1]
- The installed cost of solar is *half* of what it was just 4 years ago[2]
- As of 2011, $8.4B had been invested in solar systems deployed across the United States[3]
- The United States has over 5.7 GW (the equivalent of nearly 6 nuclear power plants) of installed solar[4]
- The utilities across the United States built nearly 500 MW of solar in Q2, 2011[5]

[1] Solar Energy Industries Association research
[2] Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, "Tracking the Sun IV", September 2011 and Green Tech Media, US Solar Market Insight, 2012
[3] Green Tech Media, US Solar Market Insight – Q2, 2012
[4] *Ibid*
[5] *Ibid*

PRIMARY 2013 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

1. PPA: Authorize Power Purchase Agreement in VA
   - Power Purchase Agreement is a financing tool similar to a lease. However, it is the *only* option that allows non-profits such as schools and military installation to utilize the Federal Investment Tax Credit
   - Allows VA non-profits to go solar at lowest possible cost, with no rate impact to others
   - HB 129 carried over in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee; stakeholder meetings ongoing

2. State ITC: Income Tax Credit for Investments in Qualifying Energy Equipment
   - Investment tax credit encourages infrastructure investment in VA and creates jobs
   - Implemented in North Carolina, with over 15,000 FTE jobs created in North Carolina Clean Energy Sector, $3.7B in revenue[1]

[1] North Carolina Clean Energy Industries Census 2012, NC Sustainable Energy Association, October 2012

SECONDARY 2013 LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

1. RPS Credit: Include Solar Thermal Energy in the RPS

- RPS was expanded last year via HB 232/SB 492 to allow thermal energy from biomass to be included in RPS
- All sources of renewable thermal energy, including solar, should be allowed in RPS

2. Distributed Generation Study

- Studies have shown that small generation distributed across the grid, and located near load, provides benefits for the grid and ratepayers, versus a grid that is supplied only by remotely located centralized generation[1,2]
- Require a study to determine the cost and benefit of various amounts of distributed generation on the electricity grid including factors such as national security, disaster recovery, avoiding electricity lost in transmission and distribution, lower costs for new transmission and distribution, and job creation

[1] J. Weidman, E. Schroeder, R. Beach, 12,000 MW of Renewable Distributed Generation by 2020, July, 2012
[2] Department of Energy, The Potential Benefits of Distributed Generation and Rate-Related Issues That May Impede Their Expansion, Section 7, 2007

THANK YOU

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