

# Top 10 Solar Priorities

To lay the foundation for a strong energy economy, the solar industry proposes an agenda organized around the following top 10 priorities.

## #1: **American energy dominance.**

The U.S. is #2 in solar power and #3 in solar manufacturing globally. The solar industry powers over 35 million American homes in rural and urban areas as the cost of solar has been cut in half over the last decade. Solar now makes up the majority of new sources being added to the grid, and low-cost energy storage makes solar dispatchable and enhances grid reliability. The path to American energy dominance needs an “all of the above strategy” that includes strong solar and battery storage industries.

## #2: **Eliminate dependence** on China.

The reshoring of the US solar supply chain is well underway and expected to continue to grow. We need to stand by this economic engine that creates jobs, supports local economies, and is poised to enter the export marketplace. By continuing to grow our solar industry, along with steel and electronics, we will end reliance on Chinese solar products and provide a welcome alternative source of solar panels for our international trading partners.

## #3: Surge American **manufacturing.**

The solar & storage industry has built or is building over 100 new factories in 43 states, creating 40,000 new jobs. This manufacturing renaissance is only just beginning. Strong policies to support manufacturing and domestic demand will surge our manufacturing fleet, create more jobs, and bring billions of dollars in new investments.

## #4: Meet the **demand challenges** of data centers, AI, & crypto.

The power grid is experiencing the largest demand growth since World War II, due to new manufacturing facilities as well as cutting-edge American innovations in artificial intelligence and cryptocurrency mining. Businesses will need an all of the above approach to meeting these demands, and the vast majority are demanding low-cost solar. American innovation must have the tools it needs to compete on a global scale to meet energy demand, and solar is the key to unlocking their potential.

## #5: **Cut red tape** in the energy sector.

In some parts of the country, it can take seven years or more to connect new power plants to the grid. This is simply unacceptable. For the U.S. to compete globally and keep the lights on at home, we must enact common-sense policies to make it easier to get new power on the grid, enable competition from new low-cost resources, and stop utilities and grid operators from dragging their feet.

## #6: **Regulatory reform** and certainty.

Regulatory overreach does not discriminate. We must eliminate wasteful and burdensome efforts to restrict infrastructure investments on federal lands, stifle competition, and impose undue EPA rules and regulations on used solar panels.

## #7: **Keep taxes low.**

Bipartisan tax policies have encouraged new investments in solar energy for two decades. Solar is popular, employs over a quarter of a million Americans, and is critical to energy security and dominance. Keep taxes where they are in order for the solar and storage industry to continue to support local jobs, factories and economies.

## #8: Support energy choice and **energy freedom.**

Rooftop solar and home batteries promote consumer choice and energy freedom from monopoly utilities. A new rooftop solar system is installed every 39 seconds. Americans love freedom, energy security, and low energy costs. If consumers want to go solar, government shouldn't stand in their way.

## #9: Bring **more jobs** to America's heartland.

Solar project developers are incentivized to build new power plants in rural areas with local workers. Today the biggest states for solar include Texas (#2), Florida (#3), North Carolina (#4), Arizona (#5), Nevada (#6), and Georgia (#7). We owe it to these workers and communities to keep their economies strong.

## #10: Protect **private property** rights.

This nation was founded on strong protections for private property rights. But lawmakers are increasingly telling landowners what they can and can't do with their own property – whether that be roofs or fields. The trampling of property rights must end and Washington must send a signal that competition, not regulators, set the rules of the road.