



Speaker Pelosi and Members of the Minnesota Congressional Delegation:

We write to you today to urge your support for rapid relief for solar workers who are imminently at risk of losing their jobs as a result of the coronavirus crisis. The Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association (MnSEIA) is a 501(c)6 nonprofit trade organization that represents our state's solar businesses. Together we represent about 110 solar companies and related businesses, which employ over 4,000 Minnesotans. Congress can provide immediate and near-term relief for solar and energy storage companies, thereby protecting their workers, by making the **Investment Tax Credit (ITC)** direct pay or refundable, at least temporarily, as well as restoring the ITC to 30% and delaying its phase down.

First and foremost, Minnesota's solar companies are prioritizing their workers' health, and the health of their families and communities. But, this crisis has dropped demand for solar precipitously, financing options are rapidly disappearing, and local governments are shutting down, which impacts necessary permitting and inspection services. It is essential that Congress help make sure the workforce has jobs to return to, and that employers remain able to pay for paid sick and family leave and health care benefits.

We recognize that the entire country is sharing the impacts of the coronavirus public health and economic crisis—and small businesses are among those most impacted. Three quarters of the solar industry are made up of small businesses, and we are hearing directly from our members that the coronavirus is disrupting their ability to continue selling and installing local clean energy systems. Without quick action by Congress to provide relief, years of work building a clean energy workforce could be undermined.

MnSEIA members have led on making solar accessible to thousands of Minnesota families and businesses. That number was set to grow, in large part because of the past success of the ITC. These credits, combined with strong state incentive programs, allowed for the rapid innovation and strong adoption of rooftop, community, and utility-scale solar in recent years.

On behalf of the hundreds of Minnesota solar and energy storage businesses and our 4,000-plus Minnesota workers, we thank you for considering our request, and for recognizing that federal assistance is necessary to ensure solar and energy storage companies are able to resume making progress when we emerge from the current crisis.

If you have any questions, please contact us at dshaffer@mnseia.org or (612) 849-0231.

Sincerely,

David Shaffer
Executive Director
MnSEIA