

Legislative/Executive Actions: Solar Energy Industries Association Announces 100-Day Agenda



Walter Wright, Jr.
wwright@mwlaw.com
(501) 688.8839

11/16/2020

The Solar Energy Industries Association (“SEIA”) published a report titled:

The Solar Vision – A 100-day Agenda (“Report”)

The *Report* is described as guidance for the incoming Biden Administration/Congress in regards to energy and climate policy in the United States.

The *Report* includes a “legislative and executive agenda” for 2021 and beyond. Scenarios are addressed relating to leadership in the White House, federal agencies, United States House of Representatives and Senate.

The *Report* proposes an agenda organized around what it describes as three strategic principles:

- Achieving Clean Energy Goals & Developing Comprehensive Carbon Policy
- Investing in Clean Energy Infrastructure & the Workforce Needed to Build It
- Ensuring Markets are Competitive & Remain Open to Clean Energy

Legislative goals are described as:

- A tax framework that drives solar deployment (including ITC modifications in light of COVID-19, and longer-term tax policy)
- A meaningful federal carbon policy mechanism
- An Investment Tax Credit for energy storage
- Clean energy development on public lands
- Federal funding for solar energy research and development
- Workforce training and development
- Developing a strong, diverse workforce & supporting a just transition
- Community solar programs and virtual net metering requirements
- Low-income access to solar
- Transmission planning and grid modernization
- Common sense investments for federal properties and other community anchor institutions, such as schools, libraries and hospitals
- Clarification and strengthening of FERC’s siting and permitting authority over interstate transmission projects
- Powering electric vehicles with clean solar energy
- Long-term federal tax policies to support domestic manufacturing of clean energy technologies

- Technology-neutral tax paradigms that allow solar and other clean energy generators to compete fairly with other fuel sources in power markets
- Fair treatment on tax policy

Executive action includes:

- Increase renewable energy deployment on public lands
- Increase solar adoption by federal agencies and facilities
- Improve interregional transmission planning
- Optimize the electrified transportation sector
- Continued support for SolarAPP to streamline local permitting
- Careful enforcement of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Responsible trade policy that encourages clean energy growth
- Proper valuation of clean energy benefits to the electric grid
- Fair and transparent PURPA implementation
- Governance of Regional Transmission Organizations and Independent System Operators that allows for clean energy to compete fairly
- Organized electricity markets that respect state autonomy

A copy of the *Report* can be downloaded [here](#).