



June 7, 2021

**Representative Alan Lowenthal, Chairman
U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Minerals
Washington, D.C. 20515**

Dear Representative Lowenthal:

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in your Subcommittee, and please find below my answers to additional questions for the record from members of the Subcommittee.

Questions from Rep. Lowenthal for Mr. Singh

- 1. Mr. Singh, can you provide the committee with more information about how your company sources solar panels?**

EDF Renewables conducts rigorous qualification processes for prospective vendors that require inspections and audits. For solar, we conduct such processes on a variety of essential components, such as modules, module racking and trackers, power inverters and power transformers. We source equipment from around the world given the global nature of the supply chain.

Regarding modules, we have sourced from both U.S.-headquartered companies and foreign-headquartered companies, and from both foreign manufacturing and U.S.-based manufacturing. Southeast Asia currently is the primary source of modules in our current procurement agreements, which change over time.

Regarding trackers and racking, we procure primarily but not solely from U.S.-headquartered companies with a portfolio of U.S.-based manufacturing.

Our inverters and transformers come from several companies globally, including name-brand U.S. firms.

Our EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) vendors are U.S. headquartered, and our U.S. projects are constructed with U.S. labor.

We have signed the solar industry's Solar Commitment, which defines common labor, health and safety, environmental, and ethical standards and expectations for solar companies throughout the industry. The standard covers an expansive list of topics, including guidance on workplace safety and ethical labor practices.

In addition, all of our current module suppliers have signed the Solar Commitment on behalf of their global operations.

2. What efforts is the solar industry taking to certify that the supply chain is ethically sourced and does not rely on forced labor in other parts of the world?

As we all learn more about forced labor in Xinjiang province in China, the solar industry is acting swiftly and responsibly to ensure the solar supply chain remains free of forced labor.

Last year, the industry via the Solar Energy Industries Association expressed support for the Uighur Forced Labor Prevention Act, which eventually passed the House on a 406 – 3 vote. If implemented, it would create a rebuttable presumption that any products with inputs from Xinjiang are at high risk of having been produced with forced labor. It would shift the burden to the importer to establish otherwise.

One of the requirements is to provide the U.S. government with results from an independent 3rd party audit. However, 3rd party audits aren't allowed in Xinjiang, so solar industry leadership via with Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) urged solar companies to move supply chains out of the region entirely.

In addition, the industry is developing a traceability protocol, to help companies provide assurances that their products do not contain inputs made with forced labor.

We have signed the solar industry's Solar Commitment, which defines common labor, health and safety, environmental, and ethical standards and expectations for solar companies throughout the industry. The standard covers an expansive list of topics, including guidance on workplace safety and ethical labor practices.

We buy American-made components for our solar projects. The solar industry overall is advocating for smart solutions to boost U.S. manufacturing, like tax credits, tightened Buy American provisions, small business loans, and R&D funding. Stable, long-term policies and investments are needed to create business certainty and an environment where domestic manufacturing for renewable energy can thrive.

Questions from Rep. Levin for Mr. Singh

1. Mr. Singh, you weren't given the opportunity to answer this question orally during the hearing. In what year did EDF Renewables first endorse the Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act?

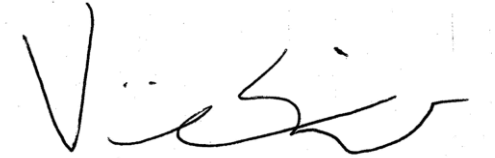
We first endorsed the legislation in the 116th Congress due to learning about it in detail for our first time.

2. What changes to the legislation in the 116th Congress convinced EDF Renewables to endorse the legislation for the first time?

We learned about the legislation in detail for our first time that Congress. We were supportive of its provisions including setting a specific goal for deployment, giving direction to solve critical issues of

cost, addressing some of the issues related to long timelines for approval and improving the locational focus of siting and permitting on federal lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Singh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mr. Virinder Singh
Vice President—Regulatory and Legislative Affairs
EDF Renewables