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# First Solar Joins US Clean Energy Business Mission to China

**May 19, 2010 Beijing** – First Solar Inc. (Nasdaq: FSLR), the world's leading manufacturer of thin film photovoltaic (PV) solar modules, is participating as one of 24 businesses on a cabinet-level Clean Energy Trade Mission led by U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke that is arriving in Beijing today.

The delegation is travelling throughout China through May 21 to explore opportunities to meet China's growing demand for clean energy through leading energy technologies and solutions. First Solar President Bruce Sohn is participating in the trade mission along with 45 other business executives.

"The companies on this trade mission are at the vanguard of a movement to meet the world's clean energy needs," Commerce Secretary Locke said. "As they grow their presence in fast-growing countries like China, companies like First Solar can help solve unprecedented energy and environmental challenges while creating good paying jobs for the people of America and China. That's a win for everyone involved."

The goal of the trade mission is to help U.S. companies already doing business in China grow by increasing their exports and assist experienced U.S. exporters looking to enter the Chinese market for the first time.

First Solar has a module manufacturing plant in Perrysburg, Ohio, and a U.S. workforce exceeding 1,400 associates—a figure that has more than doubled since 2006, largely as a result of exports.

"First Solar welcomes the opportunity to take part in this important clean energy trade mission to China," said Sohn. "China has the potential to become a leading global solar market and we intend to contribute to sustainable solar developments in all key markets globally."

First Solar has signed an agreement with the Ordos City Government to develop the world's largest solar power plant in Inner Mongolia, an undertaking that involves First Solar bringing its differentiated and advanced solar PV technology to China and leveraging its success in building large-scale PV power plants.

"We are encouraged by the Chinese government's focus on adopting sustainable clean energy technology and making renewable electricity economically viable," added Sohn. "As a partner to China, we are committed to helping make that happen."

**About First Solar, Inc.**

First Solar manufactures solar modules with an advanced semiconductor technology and provides comprehensive photovoltaic (PV) system solutions. The company is delivering an economically viable alternative to fossil-fuel generation today. From raw material sourcing through end-of-life collection and recycling, First Solar is focused on creating cost-effective, renewable energy solutions that protect and enhance the environment. For more information about First Solar, please visit http://www.firstsolar.com.

**For First Solar Investors**

This release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. The forward-looking statements in this release do not constitute guarantees of future performance. Those statements involve a number of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, including risks associated with the company's business involving the company's products, their development and distribution, economic and competitive factors and the company's key strategic relationships and other risks detailed in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. First Solar assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking information contained in this press release or with respect to the announcements described herein.

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