November 25, 2013

First Solar Starts Construction of Solar Power Plant in Kitakyushu-shi, Japan

TOKYO--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- First Solar, Inc. (Nasdaq: FSLR) today announced that it has started construction of a solar project in Kitakyushu-shi, Japan. Generation capacity of the project is 1.4MW_{DC}, and it will start operating in Q1 2014. Using First Solar's advanced technology CdTe thin-film PV modules, the project will provide clean and safe solar power to Japan, mitigating idle nuclear and providing energy security.

"This project illustrates First Solar's capability to develop and build solar power plants in Japan," said Joseph Kishkill, First Solar's Chief Commercial Officer. "We are honored to begin our long-term strategic investment in Japan with the Kitakyushu-shi project."

Over 100 million First Solar modules — which integrate advanced Japanese technology — have been installed throughout the world. Nippon Sheet Glass Co., Ltd. (NSG Group), headquartered in Tokyo and one of the world's leading manufacturers of glass, supplies the advanced technology glass with a proprietary electrical film tuned to First Solar's CdTe thin-film modules.

First Solar holds 100 percent equity in the project. Obayashi Corporation, headquartered in Tokyo and Yaskawa Electric Corporation, headquartered in Kitakyushu — both major global construction contractors — will construct the project.

About First Solar, Inc.

First Solar is a leading global provider of comprehensive photovoltaic (PV) solar systems which use its advanced module and system technology. The company's integrated power plant solutions deliver an economically attractive alternative to fossil-fuel electricity generation today. From raw material sourcing through end-of-life module recycling, First Solar's renewable energy systems protect and enhance the environment. For more information about First Solar, please visit www.firstsolar.com.

For First Solar Investors

This release contains forward-looking statements which are made pursuant to safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements include statements, among other things, concerning: our business strategy, including anticipated trends and developments in and management plans for our business and the markets in which we operate; future financial results, operating results, revenues, gross margin, operating expenses, products, projected costs, warranties, solar module efficiency and balance of systems ("BoS") cost reduction roadmaps, restructuring, product reliability and capital expenditures; our ability to continue to reduce the cost per watt of our solar modules; our ability to reduce the costs to construct photovoltaic ("PV") solar power systems; research and development programs and our ability to improve the conversion efficiency of our solar modules; sales and marketing initiatives; and competition. These forward-looking statements are often characterized by the use of words such as "estimate," "expect," "anticipate," "project," "plan," "intend," "believe," "forecast," "foresee," "likely," "may," "should," "goal," "target," "might," "will," "could," "predict," "continue" and the negative or plural of these words and other comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements are only predictions based on our current expectations and our projections about future events. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to update any of these forward-looking statements for any reason. These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, the matters discussed in Item 1A: "Risk Factors," of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, as updated and supplemented by risk factors included in our Prospectus dated June 12, 2013 filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) (the "Prospectus"), Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and other reports filed with the SEC.

First Solar Media
Burson-Marsteller
Masaki Asanuma, Eiko Aiba, Akiko Nishimura
+81 03-3264-6701

FirstSolarJP.PR@bm.com
or
Deepali Girdhar
+91 8800 843600
deepali.girdhar@firstsolar.com
or
First Solar Investors
David Brady
+1 602-414-9315
dbrady@firstsolar.com
or
Ryan Ferguson
+1 602-414-9315
rferguson@firstsolar.com

Source: First Solar, Inc.

News Provided by Acquire Media