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First Solar Publishes 2015 Sustainability Report

Company creates enduring value by driving down the cost of solar electricity

TEMPE, Ariz., March 10, 2016 - First Solar, Inc. (Nasdaq: FSLR) has published its first [Corporate Sustainability Report](#), which showcases the company's commitment to drive down the cost of solar electricity by providing the industry's leading eco-efficient photovoltaic (PV) solutions through implementation of sustainable business practices and its leadership in PV module manufacturing, recycling and responsible PV power plant construction.

First Solar's utility-scale PV power plants have consistently led the way in driving down the cost and improving the reliability of solar electricity, cementing PV as a valued component of the global generation portfolio. The report provides a look at how First Solar fulfills its mission on delivering the "triple bottom line" of people, planet and profit. Highlights include:

- 1 How we deliver the leading eco-efficient PV technology with a superior energy yield, competitive cost and smallest environmental impacts on a life cycle basis
- 1 How world-class PV module manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and Malaysia and award-winning PV power plants that generate clean electricity for 25+ years, create local jobs can contribute to biodiversity protection
- 1 How globally available PV recycling services that recover over 90 percent of the semiconductor material for reuse in new modules and 90 percent of the glass for reuse in new glass products are the new industry standard
- 1 Why minimizing the company's environmental impact through increased module and manufacturing throughput efficiency, conservation projects and on-site PV installations is important and achievable
- 1 Examples of how we support local communities and work with NGOs through First Solar's Global Charitable Giving Program

"We are proud of the steps we have taken to improve the environmental profile of our products and operations while contributing to communities where we live and work," said Alex Heard, Vice President of Global Technical Services, First Solar. "By continuously driving down the cost of solar electricity and providing a solution that addresses energy security and water scarcity, we are delivering on our commitment to build a more sustainable energy future for everyone."

View the Sustainability Report at <http://www.firstsolar.com/en/About-Us/Corporate-Responsibility.aspx>

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: effects on our financial statements and guidance resulting from pending tax matters; 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 (including estimated future module collection and recycling costs), warranties, solar module efficiency and balance of systems cost reduction roadmaps, restructuring, product reliability, investments in unconsolidated affiliates 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 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," "seek," "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 most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and other reports filed with the SEC.

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