

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Defend Solar USA Alliance Commends New Tariff Increases on Chinese Solar Wafers, Polysilicon**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The [Defend Solar USA Alliance](https://www.defendsolar.org), which advocates for the U.S. solar manufacturing industry, released the following statement applauding the U.S. Trade Representative’s office (USTR) for introducing higher tariffs on Chinese-made solar wafers and polysilicon to protect American solar manufacturers:

*“When American solar manufacturers get a level playing field to compete against China’s state-backed campaign to lock in a global monopoly of this critical energy resource, it’s good for American workers, American energy independence, and American national security. These tariffs on wafers and polysilicon are an important and positive step, but more must be done to fight back against China’s effort to cheat our trade laws and tax code to destroy American manufacturers. The Defend Solar USA Alliance looks forward to continuing this critical work with the new Congress and the Trump Administration.*

Following a review of China’s trade practices under Section 301 of the 1974 Trade Act, the USTR announced that rates will increase from 25% to 50% beginning January 1, 2025.

While this represents a significant step, it is essential that the government take additional action to block Chinese companies from taking other avenues to shore up profits at the expense of American companies and workers. If more U.S. developers sourced solar goods domestically, the solar manufacturing industry has the potential to support [900,000](#) jobs in the next ten years. Congress must intervene to prevent Chinese solar companies from siphoning off more than [\\$125 billion](#) in federal tax credits intended to support U.S. clean-energy manufacturers and generate American jobs.

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**ABOUT DEFEND SOLAR USA ALLIANCE**

*Strong American solar manufacturing is essential for jobs, energy security and reaching climate goals. The Defend Solar USA Alliance educates policymakers on the conditions facing U.S. solar manufacturers. Learn more at [www.defendsolar.org](https://www.defendsolar.org).*