

2011-05-18

## Solar Weekly Highlights

Welcome to the May 18th, 2011 edition of Solar Server's Weekly Highlights, focusing on feed-in tariff policy, solar industry 1Q 2011 results and new large PV plants

### Ontario Conservatives threaten to scrap province's feed-in tariff



Ontario Leader Tim Hudak has couched his opposition to Ontario's feed-in tariff as protection for Ontario families, however his party ignores the job creation benefits of the policy

In a move with potential implications for the global PV industry, Ontario's Progressive Conservative Party has stated that, if elected, it will destroy the province's feed-in tariff, the most successful single policy for the solar industry in North America. [More](#)

However, a number of other political jurisdictions appear to be moving towards feed-in tariffs. During the week Ecuador implemented a feed-in tariff. [More](#)

And the U.S. state of Nevada is also considering a FIT pilot program. [More](#)

### Weakened demand, uncertainty show in 1Q 2011 results: SMA and Q-Cells



This week brought continued revelations of the difficulties that a number of companies in the PV industry faced in the first quarter of 2011, with giants SMA and Q-Cells reporting substantially decreased revenues.

[More on SMA](#)  
[More on Q-Cells](#)

Left: The three-phase inverter Sunny Tripower was one of the most successful SMA products in Q 1, 2011

**Not all gloom and doom: JA Solar, Canadian Solar, SolarWorld**



JA Solar became a world leading manufacturer of PV cells in 2010

However, some PV producers appear to be weathering the storm just fine, with JA Solar, Canadian Solar and Solar World reporting relatively strong results. [JA Solar](#); [Canadian Solar](#); [SolarWorld](#)

SunPower came in somewhere in the middle, reporting quarterly revenues well below the fourth quarter of 2010 but 51.8% higher than the first quarter of 2010. [More](#)

## Big plants, big money



The Les Mees PV plant

This week also saw Enfinity complete two large French PV plants, a promising development for a nation that has been outpaced by most of its neighbors. [More](#)

Finally, during the week the U.S. Department of Energy offered a conditional commitment for a loan guaranteed for a 30MW HCPV plant in Colorado.

The planned project is much larger than any CPV plant currently in operation.

[More](#)

Thanks for your interest in the Solar Weekly Highlights. Stay posted for next week's industry highlights.

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Best Regards; Rolf Hug, Editor in Chief

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