

Welcome to Solar Weekly Insight, presenting the most important developments in the global solar industry, ranging from significant industry trends, policies, research, and new technologies to markets and pricing.

This week's edition focuses on latest policy developments in Germany, the EU, and in China. Our new solar point of view throws a glance at Google as a potential "cleantech utility".

## **German Economy and Energy Minister Sigmar Gabriel plans to reduce German PV market to 2.5 GW**



*BEE has warned that Economics and Energy Minister Sigmar Gabriel's (pictured) plans will cause the nation to miss climate and energy targets. (SPD)*

This last week has brought some unfortunate policy news in Germany, at the EU and in China. While the final proposal by incoming German Economy and Energy Minister Sigmar Gabriel has not been made publicly available, leaked documents do not look good for the German PV industry.

Gabriel is reported to be calling for feed-in tariff cuts designed to limit the German market to 2.5 GW annually and application of feed-in tariff surcharges to "self-consumption" systems. [More](#)

## **European Commission proposes weak 2030 renewable energy target of 27%**



Meanwhile, on Tuesday the European Commission released its proposal for 2030 EU climate and energy goals, calling for a 40% emissions reduction but only a 27% renewable energy goal. EPIA called the proposal a "lame duck". [More](#)

*Picture left: EPIA had previously stated that the EC setting ambitious targets was unlikely under President Barroso. (European Commission)*

## **China imposes final tariffs on U.S., South Korean polysilicon**



This week China's MOFCOM issued final rulings to confirm anti-dumping and CVD duties on solar-grade polysilicon from the United States, and anti-dumping duties on South Korean polysilicon. Final anti-dumping rates were as high as 57% for companies including REC Silicon (Sandvika, Norway), which makes polysilicon in two U.S. states. [More](#)

*Picture left: REC Silicon has received the highest anti-dumping rate of 57%*

## Merchant Power! SunPower, First Solar begin construction on PV plants without PPAs



While policy news was less than optimal, this week saw some exciting PV project news, including SunPower beginning site work on the 70 MW Project Salvador PV plant in Chile. The plant is one of the first large PV plants to reach the construction stage in Chile, and will be the second large PV plant in Latin America to be built on a merchant basis. [More](#)

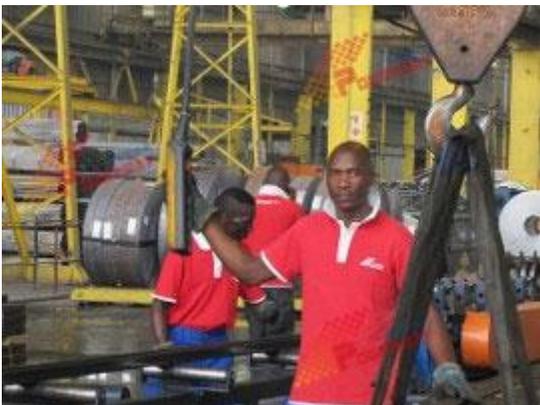
*Picture left: Project Salvador is being built in the Atacama Desert of Northern Chile, which offers some of the world's best solar irradiation*



Meanwhile, First Solar began construction on a 22 MW PV project in Texas, which does not hold a PPA. While the project is not officially a merchant project, it will initially sell electricity into the Texas grid while First solar seeks off-takers. [More](#)

*Picture left: The PV plant is being built in West Texas, a dry region with very strong natural solar potential*

## JA Solar/Powerway, Solar Frontier to build factories in South Africa, Japan



This week also saw announcements regarding two new PV manufacturing facilities. In South Africa, JA Solar and Powerway are planning to build a 150 MW PV module factory. [More](#)

*Picture left: Powerway already has established a PV mounting systems factory in Kimberley, South Africa*



Meanwhile, Solar Frontier has signed a site agreement for a 150 MW PV factory to produce its CIGS PV modules in northern Japan. This will be Solar Frontier's fourth factory. [More](#)

*Picture left: From left: Miyagi Prefecture Governor Yoshihiro Murai, Solar Frontier President and Representative Director Hiroto Tamai, Ohiramura Mayor Masahiro Atobe. (Solar Frontier)*

## Yingli stays on top in 2013



This week IHS announced that Yingli remained the world's largest PV module maker in 2013, with over 3 GW of product shipped. Yingli was also the largest PV supplier in both China and Germany. [More](#)

*Picture left: Yingli produced and shipped more than 3 GW of PV modules in 2013*

## Fraunhofer ISE, ABB named among winners of Zayed Future Energy Prize



This week the World Future Energy Summit was held in Abu Dhabi, including awards for the 2014 Zayed Future Energy Prize. This year's winners included Fraunhofer ISE, which won USD 1.5 million through the NGO award, and ABB, the parent company of inverter maker Power-One. [More](#)

*Picture left: Fraunhofer ISE Director Dr. Eicke Weber (left) says that the award will allow ISE to assist nations that have not yet started the Energy Transition*

## Very strong interest in NSM Phase 2 PV auction



Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) has received 2.17 GW of bids for 750 MW of available solar PV capacity through an auction under phase 2, batch 1 of India's National Solar Mission, with both the domestic content and open categories over-subscribed. [More](#)

*Picture left: US PV maker First Solar has bid to build plants with its CdTe thin film modules in the open category*

## Japan installs almost 4 GW of solar PV in seven months



We leave you with some good news from the world's second-largest market. Late last week Japan's METI announced that the nation had installed 3.97 MW of PV during the first seven months of the Japanese fiscal year, April 1st through October 31st, 2013. This includes 870 MW of residential PV and 3.12 GW in the "non-residential" sector. [More](#)

*Picture left: While Japan's residential PV market showed signs of slowdown, the "non-residential" segment, which includes utility-scale PV, remained strong. (Kyocera)*

## Solar Point of View: Is Google about to be your cleantech utility?



This week, Solar Server brings you a piece from Yann Brandt of SolarWakeup, who looks at recent moves by Google and makes the case that the search engine company may be looking to become the first cleantech utility. [More](#)

*Picture left: Yann Brandt publishes SolarWakeup (solarwakeup.com), a daily rundown of top stories in the solar industry. He can be found on Twitter @yannbrandt*

Thanks for your interest in the Solar Weekly Insight. Stay posted for the next industry highlights.

**For free subscription, registration and recommendation please visit:** [www.solarserver.com/registration](http://www.solarserver.com/registration)

**Follow Solar Server on twitter like over 4,444 solar stakeholders do:** <http://twitter.com/solarserver>

**Solar Server: The Gateway to Solar Power around the world:** [www.solarserver.com](http://www.solarserver.com).

**Solar Daily Insight: Breaking news at:**  
<http://www.solarserver.com/solar-magazine/solar-news.html>

**Publisher:**

**Heindl Server GmbH**  
Kaiserstraße 137  
D - 72764 Reutlingen

Tel.: +49 (0)7121-69681-30  
Fax: +49 (0)7121-69681-38

Register of corporations-Nr:  
HRB 382398 Handelsregister des Amtsgerichts Stuttgart

CEO / Editor in Chief: Rolf Hug; [rolf.hug@solarserver.de](mailto:rolf.hug@solarserver.de)

**Solarserver North America Representation**  
One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1060  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Toll-Free: + 1 877 SUN 7077  
or +1 877 786 7077  
Fax: +1 415 627 9169

For recommendation / registration please visit  
[www.solarserver.com/registration](http://www.solarserver.com/registration)

***We respect your privacy.*** If you do not like to receive future e-mails from us, please opt-out by sending an e-mail with re "no newsletter" to: [info@solarserver.de](mailto:info@solarserver.de)