

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 the ongoing solar trade conflict culminating in SolarWorld's petition for EU tariffs against Chinese PV, and new developments in the U.S. and Italian solar market.

China initiates anti-dumping investigation against U.S. polysilicon, SolarWorld petitions for EU tariffs against Chinese PV, Suntech rejects SolarWorld's allegations



Hemlock Semiconductor polysilicon plant under construction in the U.S. state of Tennessee. Hemlock JV participant Dow Corning warns that Chinese tariffs could endanger USD 1 billion in U.S. exports and thousands of U.S. jobs (Dow Corning)

The last week saw two major developments in a brewing international trade war. On Friday, China's MOFCOM announced that it will begin an anti-dumping investigation against U.S. polysilicon makers. [More](#)

A few days later, SolarWorld petitioned the European Commission to initiate an anti-dumping investigation against Chinese PV manufacturers, similar to the investigation underway at the U.S. Department of Commerce. [More](#)

On July 25th, 2012 Suntech Power Holdings Co., Ltd published a statement regarding the filing of the anti-dumping complaint by SolarWorld AG.

"Suntech rejects SolarWorld's allegations that it has received illegal subsidies and is dumping solar products in Europe and will cooperate fully with any investigation," said Jerry Stokes, President of Suntech Europe. [More](#)

NJ Governor Christie signs bill to stabilize state's solar market



This week New Jersey Governor Chris Christie signed a bill to accelerate and change the basis for New Jersey's solar requirements under its RPS policy. The bill makes a number of other changes to laws governing solar in the state. [More](#)

Picture left: The law will also put an 80 MW cap on grid-tied PV installations between 2014 and 2016, with an exception for PV plants on landfills, brownfields and parking lot canopies

CPS, OCI sign deal to build 400 MW of PV in Texas



Municipal utility CPS has signed a deal with an OCI subsidiary to build 400 MW of municipally-owned PV in San Antonio, Texas. The deal also includes plans for solar manufacturing facilities in the city. [More](#)

Picture left: CPS Energy PV plant in San Antonio. CPS CEO Doyle Beneby states that the project will put Texas among the top five states for PV in the United States

Amonix closes Nevada CPV factory



The facility had an annual output of 150 MW of CPV modules

Late last week, Amonix announced that it has closed a 150 MW CPV factory in Las Vegas, citing intense competition and lower than anticipated demand for its CPV solutions.

The 19,900 square meter facility had an annual output of 150 MW of Amonix's concentrating photovoltaic (CPV) modules, and was open for slightly more than one year. In a July 19th, 2012 statement, the company notes that the only federal incentive it received for the facility was a USD 5.9 million manufacturing tax credit, which it was not able to use. [More](#)

IMS Research warns of pending "disaster" in Italian PV industry



IMS Research has warned that a failure to account for current installations will cause the budget for the Conto Energia V to run dry in 2013, leaving the nation with only 3 GW installed that year. [More](#)

The company's latest "PV Demand Database" notes that while the program was intended to be accompanied by an annual budget of EUR 700 million (USD 846 million), this will be impacted by PV systems already installed.

Picture left: IMS Research Senior PV Analyst Sam Wilkinson estimates that only EUR 300 million will be available for the program to come in August

REC reports improved margins, heavy loss in 2Q 2012



Finally, late last week REC ASA released its second quarter 2012 results, showing its second consecutive quarter of positive margins, but heavy losses from USD 591 million in impairment charges, mostly related to its Singapore facility.

[More](#)

Picture left: REC's polysilicon plant at Moses Lake in the U.S. state of Washington features the company's fluidized bed reactor polysilicon technology

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