

Department of Commerce Statement on President Biden's Proclamation on Solar Cells and Modules

Export and investment promotion

Today, Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo released the below statement following President Biden's emergency declaration regarding the temporary duty-free importation of solar cells and modules from Southeast Asia to avoid disruptions to the electric power system:

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Office of Public
Affairs

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"The Department of Commerce remains committed to protecting our economic and national security against unprecedented challenges. As droughts cripple the West and Russia's unwarranted invasion of Ukraine have placed increasing strains on America's energy market, preventing disruptions to the electric power system,

diversifying our energy sources and responding to the climate crisis have never been more urgent, and solar energy is an essential component of meeting those needs.

"As we invest in expanding domestic solar manufacturing and strengthening supply chains to protect our long-term energy security, imported solar panels remain an important component to addressing the immediate demands of bringing additional energy sources online and addressing the energy needs of the American people.

"I remain committed to upholding our trade laws and ensuring American workers have a chance to compete on a level playing field. The President's emergency declaration ensures America's families have access to reliable and clean electricity while also ensuring we have the ability to hold our trading partners accountable to their commitments."

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Enforcement and Compliance Lisa Wang also released a statement:

“The President has declared an emergency with respect to the inadequate supply of solar cells and modules. Pursuant to the President’s Proclamation, the Department of Commerce will issue regulations to temporarily permit for up to 24 months duty-free access to solar cells and modules from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. We will continue to rigorously enforce U.S. trade laws, hold our trading partners accountable, and defend U.S. industries and workers from unfair imports.

“The Commerce Department’s anti-circumvention proceeding continues uninterrupted, and whatever conclusion Commerce reaches when the investigation concludes will apply once this short-term emergency period is over. In accordance with the President’s declaration, no solar cells or modules imported from Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam will be subject to new antidumping or countervailing duties during the period of the emergency. Existing duties on Chinese and Taiwanese imports of solar cells and modules remain in effect.”

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