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December 7, 2011

The Honorable John Bryson
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Bryson:

I am writing to express my concern regarding allegations of unfair Chinese trade practices with respect to solar products.

On October 19, 2011, a coalition of United States manufacturers of solar energy equipment filed antidumping and countervailing duty petitions with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the International Trade Commission alleging illegal Chinese trade practices. The petitions allege that the Chinese solar cell and panel industry receive illegal government subsidies, raw-materials discounts, preferential loans, and tax incentives to boost the export of solar equipment. According to the petitions, imports of Chinese solar products have increased substantially since 2008, resulting in the loss of American jobs, including 200 jobs in the 24th District of California when the SolarWorld production facility in Camarillo, California closed.

I urge your office to investigate these allegations and protect American businesses and workers from being harmed by unfair trade practices by ensuring that China comply with its World Trade Organization obligations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


ELTON GALLEGLY
Member of Congress

EG/cd