

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard  
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**Subject:** SEIA: Suniva trade case threatens 88K U.S. solar jobs

By Esther Whieldon

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The Solar Energy Industries Association [says](#) the U.S. solar sector would lose 88,000 jobs, or about one-third of the workforce, if President Donald Trump grants Suniva's request to impose trade tariffs on solar equipment imports.

The U.S. International Trade Commission is investigating a complaint by Suniva and SolarWorld Americas that an influx of cheap solar cells and modules largely from Asian countries is harming the U.S. manufacturing market and putting the companies out of business.

SEIA, which has opposed the petition, said the utility-scale market would be hit the hardest and see employment shrink by 60 percent, while residential solar jobs would decline by about 44 percent and commercial sector positions would drop about 46 percent.

California would be hurt the most, SEIA said, with about 15,800 jobs lost. South Carolina would lose about 7,000 jobs and Texas would see about 6,300 jobs vanish, SEIA said.

"Rather than help the industry, the action would kill many thousands of American jobs and put a stop to billions of dollars in private investment," Abigail Ross Hopper, SEIA president and CEO, said in a statement.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** The commission expects to determine the extent to which the cheaper solar panels are causing injury by Sept. 22. If it finds there is injury, would send its recommendations to Trump by Nov. 13.

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