



For Immediate Release

## **The Solar Foundation and SolarTech Partner on Solar Leadership Summit**

*Collaboration to provide forum for creating a blueprint for accelerating  
100 US cities towards grid parity*

**Washington, DC – January 31, 2012** – A throng of the nation’s foremost solar industry experts, comprising thought leaders from the private and nonprofit sectors and the regulatory community, will join The Solar Foundation and SolarTech in Silicon Valley in March to develop a standardized pathway for accelerating the growth of local residential and commercial solar markets. At the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Solar Leadership Summit, to be held March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hayes Mansion Hotel in San Jose, CA, workshops led by industry leaders will explore how market barriers facing local and regional solar markets can be addressed through the application of national best in class strategies for reducing costs and prices and increasing access to capital.

“Attendees will acquire leading finance, performance, permitting, interconnection, and workforce development tools to address local market barriers for residential and commercial PV markets that reduce costs to industry and lower prices for consumers,” said SolarTech’s Executive Director, Doug Payne. “Participants will play an active role in identifying the Top 100 highest priority US cities and/or regional markets to benefit from these model best practices.”

“This meeting of the minds is an opportunity for thought leaders to come together and sketch out a pathway for addressing some of the industry’s most pressing concerns. What makes this summit unique is its collaborative style of consensus building around long-term vision,” said Andrea Luecke, Executive Director of The Solar Foundation.

Notable Summit speakers include Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Jon Wellinghoff and PG&E’s Vice President of Customer Energy Solutions Steve Malnight, with a Keynote Address delivered by California Air Resources Board Chairman Mary Nichols. More information, including registration details, can be found online at <http://www.solartech.org/events/eventdetail/157-2012-solar-leadership-summit>

### **About The Solar Foundation**

Founded in 1977 and based in Washington, DC, The Solar Foundation is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit working to increase the widespread adoption of solar energy through its strategic and coordinated public education efforts, high-level data collection, and innovative research. [www.TheSolarFoundation.org](http://www.TheSolarFoundation.org)

### **About Solar Tech**

SolarTech, an initiative of Silicon Valley Leadership Group, is a collaborative organization formed to create a Solar Center of Excellence in Silicon Valley. SolarTech reduces solar soft costs, lowers risks, and accelerates local solar markets through scalable standards and best practices in the areas of permitting, interconnection, performance, finance, installation and workforce readiness. [www.SolarTech.org](http://www.SolarTech.org)

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