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# Major Construction Unions Host Solar Good Jobs Summit

## *Key Stakeholders Gather for Forum focused on Union Jobs in Solar*

**Washington, DC (April 10, 2024)** – The Solar Good Jobs Summit, hosted by IBEW, IUOE, and LIUNA, brought together key stakeholders in the solar industry; including Labor leaders, Biden Administration officials, utility board members, contractors, investment managers, and developers.

Remarks delivered by John Podesta, Senior Advisor to the President for International Climate Policy as well as Wally Adeyemo, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury and David Turk, Deputy Secretary, Department of Energy, served to emphasize the Biden-Harris Administration’s commitment to both delivering renewable energy investments and creating good family-supporting jobs.

Senator Ron Wyden, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, who led in crafting the Inflation Reduction Act and also joined the gathering, spoke of the importance of leveraging federal incentives to make energy more affordable, build our clean energy portfolio, and create good jobs.

The union presidents hosting the event shed light on opportunities and challenges facing efforts to create good union jobs in the solar industry and highlighted the new Tri-trade Solar Agreement as a model compliance tool to take advantage of incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act.

“The solar market is exploding thanks to historic demand for energy and the incentives included in the IRA, and the need for skilled union members to make these projects a reality is higher than ever. The Tri-trade Solar Agreement is not just a national agreement; it’s a national solution, one that allows owners, developers and contractors not just to meet their workforce needs, but to rest easy that they’re meeting the rigorous requirements of the IRA.”

“Together, our three unions are committed to being partners to the solar industry, from permitting to interconnection and at every step in between,” said IBEW International President Kenneth Cooper.

“We were pleased to help convene such a critical group of government officials, clean energy business executives, and labor leaders to discuss good, union jobs in the solar business. Through our investments in training, and the skills and productivity of our members, Operating Engineers are ready to seize the moment and meet the needs of this burgeoning industry,” said IUOE General President James T. Callahan.

“We are grateful to the leadership of the Biden Administration in pushing through the Inflation Reduction Act and making sure the rules stick so federal incentives create good green jobs. We are also proud to partner with the solar industry to seize this opportunity to power our nation and do it with skilled and experienced union members,” said LIUNA General President Brent Booker.

The forum also featured a panel on how investment managers are creating strong returns while creating good jobs building solar energy and a panel on how utilities are tackling permitting, siting, and workforce availability by partnering effectively with labor unions, developers, and communities.

The host unions were honored to have the participation of a distinguished mix of industry professionals, corporate leaders, and government officials.

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