Hello Mary:

My name is Daniel Rivest and I am writing to you and the CEC to try and prevent a terrible mistake from being made.

Years ago solar panels made out of Cadmium Telluride seemed like a viable solution to the shortage of silicon that existed not only for solar but for the semiconductor industry as well.

Times have changed. Solar panels manufactured using Cadmium Telluride (Cd Te) require recycling as hazardous waste; at the same time panels made out of traditional silicone have come down significantly in cost, making them a more viable option, both from an environmental and cost comparison viewpoint.

For this reason we are suggesting that the California Energy Commission not purchase any solar panel that requires recycling as hazardous waste. We are suggesting that similar wording by put into the compliance requirements for solar panels purchased by the CEC.

The added benefit of panels made out of silicon is that they would produce more power than the Cd Te panels even at a more competitive price. They also would have a longer life expectancy and would certainly be way less expensive to recycle in the future.

Let me know if you have any questions for me.

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Sunny Regards,

Daniel Rivest