

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**Research, Education and Training Programs to Facilitate Adoption of
Solar Energy Technologies**

HEARING

June 19, 2007

**Statement of Subcommittee on Energy & Environment Ranking Member Bob Inglis
(SC-4)**

Good afternoon. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this legislative hearing on facilitating the adoption of solar energy technologies.

Solar energy occupies just a sliver of the global energy market. However, when you consider that the earth receives more energy from the sun in just one hour than the world uses in a whole year, it makes sense that we should look into making that thin sliver into a big piece of the energy pie. With some advancements in technology and conversion efficiencies, solar will fit the bill for our energy goals: clean, renewable, and abundant.

Today, we're going to discuss draft legislation that seeks to address ways that the federal government can help speed commercial viability of solar energy. I look forward to hearing from our expert panel of witnesses as to how we might meet our goals.

Mr. Chairman, as we discuss this proposal today, and move to markup, I hope we give adequate time to make the bill as good as it can be. America's scientists, engineers, inventors, and entrepreneurs realize the potential of solar power and other renewable sources, and I hope we can set policies that facilitate the development of these sources..

Thank you again, Mr. Chairman and I look forward to hearing from our witnesses.