



Office of the City Council

October 28, 2011

Re: Inland Empire Renewable Energy EB-5 Regional Center in Riverside

As Councilmember of Riverside's Ward 2, I am pleased that SolarMax Technology has selected Riverside as the place to expand its business in the essential industry of renewable energy. As the first federally approved EB-5 Regional Center in the region, the Center's opening will place Riverside another important step towards becoming a major player in the global economy.

Focus on renewable energy, the IERE EB-5 Regional Center will; by its presence in Riverside accelerate the City's already rapid progress towards becoming a green economy. Riverside has gained statewide recognition as California's first Emerald City for its sustainability practices, and as a model solar city for its innovative solar energy generation projects. Riverside plans to develop 20MW of solar energy by 2020, and the IERE EB-5 Regional Center is critical to the accomplishment of this goal.

The IERE Regional Center is poised to attract \$80 million by way of EB-5 direct foreign investment into renewable projects in Riverside, creating 1,600 direct and indirect jobs. It will bring international capital, create new employment opportunities, and enhance tax revenues in the City and region.

By choosing Riverside, the IERE EB-5 regional Center will become part of a City that has been named one of the world's Top 7 Smart Communities by Intelligent Communities Forum, and as one of the world's most livable cities by LivCom.

Welcome to Riverside! I am pleased to say you will be part of the Ward 2 community.

Sincerely,

Andy Melendrez

City Council Member, Ward 2

Riverside City Council

Name

Date

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