

OREGON
ECONOMIC



DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION

SUCCESS STORY

Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC)

- \$650 Million Total Investment
- 1,000 Jobs Created
- 700,000 SF of Manufacturing Capacity
- \$20 Million BETC



CITY OF HILLSBORO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



The Oregon Department of Energy's **Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC)** program has targeted the renewable energy industry, fostering significant investment that has positioned Oregon as leader in solar manufacturing.

The **BETC** was a key factor in **SolarWorld's** choice to locate in Oregon. While other solar energy companies are transferring jobs overseas to cut manufacturing costs, SolarWorld has hired 1,000 employees and invested nearly \$650 million outfitting its Hillsboro, OR, manufacturing facility—its U.S. headquarters.

"We are fully committed to not only marketing the proven renewable energy of photovoltaic technology in the United States but also manufacturing it here," said Boris Klebensberger, SolarWorld's chief operating officer and president of SolarWorld Industries America.

In 2007, SolarWorld acquired the former Komatsu silicon wafer production facility in Hillsboro for \$40 million. The company has made significant investments to renovate the 480,000-square-foot facility into a world-class manufacturing plant that will convert raw silicon into approximately 500 megawatts worth of photovoltaic wafers and cells a year.

The Hillsboro facility went on line in fall 2008. A second building, constructed in 2009, added 210,000 sf of assembly and manufacturing space (a 44% increase in capacity), making SolarWorld the only company to sell solar panels made entirely in Oregon, from growing crystals to final module assembly.