



February 13, 2013

**In response to an article/photo from the Associated Press that appeared in many newspapers, Steve Shea, Suniva's Chief Engineering Officer, provides this response:**

I was disappointed to see the Atlanta Journal Constitution run an Associated Press article and photo (<http://www.ajc.com/photo/ap/business/solar-industry-grapples-with-hazardous-wastes/pn3qs/>) concerning hazardous waste associated with the solar energy industry, without input from Georgia's own solar company, Suniva. We could have explained that the original article failed to distinguish between wastes produced by different solar technologies and manufacturers. Suniva's technology is based on crystalline silicon, the same material used for most of the electronic devices that consumers use every day. Silicon, along with the glass, aluminum, copper and polymers used in our solar panels, are among the most stable, non-toxic and widely-used materials on earth. Moreover, our manufacturing process, which produces some of the highest-efficiency solar cells in the world, creates zero "sludge" and zero "contaminated water." Many other producers of solar cells and panels use similarly clean processes, and we believe that these manufacturers represent the bulk of the solar industry. The AP article, as published, was both misleading and incomplete, and addressed only one segment of solar manufacturing -- the thin-film technologies. Suniva is proud to be part of an emerging green industry. We believe that, as a green industry, we have a special responsibility to environmental stewardship throughout the manufacturing process.

Thank you,

Stephen P. Shea, Ph.D.  
Chief Engineering Officer, Suniva