

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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(Longmont, Colo.) On Saturday, February 14, 2009, Colorado's senior United States Senator, Mark Udall, visited the factory of solar module manufacturer AVA Solar, Inc.

Senator Udall chose the facility to kick-off his Colorado Workforce tour and to emphasize his long-standing support for renewable energy.

AVA Solar is a nationally-recognized company that has pioneered an innovative method of producing solar modules at low cost. It was recently recognized in *BusinessWeek* magazine as one of the hottest startups of 2008.

"This is a state-of-the art facility," said Senator Udall, in a speech and question and answer session with AVA Solar employees. "What you have built here is really impressive. With the Advanced Energy Loan program, we can double or triple what you have here now."

In addition to speaking with employees, Udall also toured AVA Solar's state-of-the-art factory, which will be in commercial production by the end of the second quarter of 2009.

"We were honored to host Senator Udall and introduce him to our employees and technology," said AVA Solar CEO Pascal Noronha. "We are proud to be announcing the creation of so many green jobs that will help reinvigorate the economy and bring clean energy to the world."

During his visit, Senator Udall emphasized his support for the Department of Energy loan guarantee programs designed to support the commercialization of sources of renewable energy such as the solar modules manufactured by AVA Solar. He vowed to support AVA Solar's application for such a loan guarantee that would enable the company to accelerate expansion plans and create an additional 500 jobs. "We need to get you the help to build out the rest of this factory," Senator Udall said.

AVA Solar, Inc. was founded in 2007 to commercialize an advanced process for manufacturing thin-film photovoltaic modules. Built upon 15 years of development at Colorado State University's Material Engineering Laboratory, AVA Solar has developed a robust, industrial-scale, continuous process for producing solar PV modules at a cost below \$1/watt, significantly reducing the cost of generating solar electricity. For additional information, visit <http://www.avasolar.com>.