

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Mark Smilovits, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,)	No. 2:12-cv-00555-DGC
)	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff,)	
vs.)	
First Solar, Inc., Michael J. Ahearn, Robert J. Gillette, Mark R. Widmar, Jens Meyerhoff, James Zhu, Bruce Sohn and David Eaglesham,)	
Defendants.)	

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE

I. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. To recover as a member of the Class based on your claims in the action entitled *Smilovits v. First Solar, Inc. et al.*, No. 2:12-cv-00555-DGC (the "Litigation"), you must complete and, on page 6 hereof, sign this Proof of Claim and Release. If you fail to submit a properly addressed (as set forth in paragraph 3 below) Proof of Claim and Release form, postmarked or received by the date shown below, your claim may be rejected and you may be precluded from any recovery from the Net Settlement Fund created in connection with the proposed settlement of the Litigation (the "Settlement").¹

2. Submission of this Proof of Claim and Release form, however, does not assure that you will share in the proceeds of the Settlement.

3. YOU MUST MAIL OR SUBMIT ONLINE YOUR COMPLETED AND SIGNED PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM, ACCOMPANIED BY COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED HEREIN, NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2020, TO THE COURT-APPOINTED CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR IN THIS CASE, AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

First Solar Securities Litigation
Claims Administrator
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
P.O. Box 43336
Providence, RI 02940-3336

Online Submissions: www.FSLRSecuritiesLitigation.com

If you are NOT a member of the Class (as defined in the Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class Action (the "Notice")), DO NOT submit a Proof of Claim and Release form.

4. If you are a member of the Class and you did not timely request exclusion from the Class, you will be bound by the terms of any judgment entered in the Litigation, including the releases provided therein, WHETHER OR NOT YOU SUBMIT A PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE FORM.

II. CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION

You are a member of the Class if you purchased or otherwise acquired First Solar, Inc. ("First Solar") publicly-traded securities between April 30, 2008 and February 28, 2012, inclusive. Excluded from the Class are: Defendants, members of the immediate families of each of the Defendants, the officers and directors of First Solar, at all relevant times, members of their immediate families and their legal representatives, heirs, successors, or assigns and any entity in which Defendants had a controlling interest. The Class also excludes the plaintiffs in the litigation entitled *Maverick Fund, L.D.C. v. First Solar, Inc., et al.*, No. 2:15-cv-01156-DGC (D. Ariz.). Also excluded from the Class is any Class Member that validly and timely requested exclusion in accordance with the requirements set by the Court in connection with the Notice of Pendency of Class Action previously provided to the Class.

¹ This Proof of Claim and Release incorporates by reference the definitions in the Stipulation of Settlement ("Stipulation"), which can be obtained at www.FSLRSecuritiesLitigation.com.

Use Part I of this form entitled "Claimant Identification" to identify each purchaser or acquirer of record ("nominee"), if different from the beneficial purchaser or acquirer of the securities which form the basis of this claim. THIS CLAIM MUST BE FILED BY THE ACTUAL BENEFICIAL PURCHASER(S) OR ACQUIRER(S) OR THE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF SUCH PURCHASER(S) OR ACQUIRER(S) OF THE FIRST SOLAR SECURITIES UPON WHICH THIS CLAIM IS BASED.

All joint purchasers or acquirers must sign this claim. Executors, administrators, guardians, conservators and trustees must complete and sign this claim on behalf of persons represented by them and their authority must accompany this claim and their titles or capacities must be stated. The Social Security (or taxpayer identification) number and telephone number of the beneficial owner may be used in verifying the claim. Failure to provide the foregoing information could delay verification of your claim or result in rejection of the claim.

If you are acting in a representative capacity on behalf of a Class Member (for example, as an executor, administrator, trustee, or other representative), you must submit evidence of your current authority to act on behalf of that Class Member. Such evidence would include, for example, letters testamentary, letters of administration, or a copy of the trust documents.

NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRONIC FILES: Certain claimants with large numbers of transactions may request to, or may be requested to, submit information regarding their transactions in electronic files. All claimants MUST submit a manually signed paper Proof of Claim and Release form listing all their transactions whether or not they also submit electronic copies. If you wish to file your claim electronically, you must contact the Claims Administrator at edata@gilardi.com to obtain the required file layout. No electronic files will be considered to have been properly submitted unless the Claims Administrator issues to the claimant a written acknowledgement of receipt and acceptance of electronically submitted data.

III. CLAIM FORM

Use Part II of this form entitled "Schedule of Transactions in First Solar Common Stock," to supply all required details of your transaction(s) in First Solar publicly-traded securities. If you need more space or additional schedules, attach separate sheets giving all of the required information in substantially the same form. Sign and print or type your name on each additional sheet.

On the schedules, provide all of the requested information with respect to **all** of your purchases and acquisitions and **all** of your sales of First Solar publicly-traded securities between April 30, 2008 and May 29, 2012, whether such transactions resulted in a profit or a loss. You must also provide all of the requested information with respect to **all** of the shares of First Solar publicly-traded securities you held at the close of trading on April 30, 2008, February 28, 2012, and May 29, 2012. Failure to report all such transactions may result in the rejection of your claim.

List these transactions separately and in chronological order, by trade date, beginning with the earliest. You must accurately provide the month, day and year of each transaction you list.

For short-sale transactions, the date of covering a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of purchase of First Solar common stock, and the date of a "short sale" is deemed to be the date of sale of First Solar common stock.

For each transaction, you must provide, together with this claim form, copies of stockbroker confirmation slips, stockbroker statements, or other documents adequately evidencing your transactions in First Solar publicly-traded securities. If any such documents are not in your possession, please obtain a copy or equivalent documents from your broker because these documents are necessary to prove and process your claim. Failure to provide this documentation could delay verification of your claim or result in rejection of your claim.

Official
Office
Use
Only

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Smilovits v. First Solar, Inc., et al.
Civil Action No. 2:12-cv-00555-DGC

PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE

Please Type or Print in the Boxes Below

Do **NOT** use Red Ink, Pencil, or Staples

**Must Be Postmarked (if Mailed)
or Received (if Submitted Online)
No Later Than July 1, 2020**

F A E

REMEMBER TO ATTACH COPIES OF BROKER CONFIRMATIONS OR OTHER DOCUMENTATION OF YOUR TRANSACTIONS IN FIRST SOLAR SECURITIES. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THIS DOCUMENTATION COULD DELAY VERIFICATION OF YOUR CLAIM OR RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM.

PART I: CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION

Last Name M.I. First Name

Last Name (Co-Beneficial Owner) M.I. First Name (Co-Beneficial Owner)

IRA Joint Tenancy Employee Individual Other

Company Name (Beneficial Owner - If Claimant is not an Individual) or Custodian Name if an IRA (specify)

Trustee/Asset Manager/Nominee/Record Owner's Name (If Different from Beneficial Owner Listed Above)

Account#/Fund# (Not Necessary for Individual Filers)

Last Four Digits of Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number

Telephone Number (Primary Daytime) Telephone Number (Alternate)

Email Address

MAILING INFORMATION

Address

Address

City State Zip Code

Foreign Province Foreign Postal Code Foreign Country Name/Abbreviation

FOR CLAIMS PROCESSING ONLY	OB <input type="text"/>	CB <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> ATP <input type="radio"/> KE <input type="radio"/> ICI	<input type="radio"/> BE <input type="radio"/> DR <input type="radio"/> EM	<input type="radio"/> FL <input type="radio"/> ME <input type="radio"/> ND	<input type="radio"/> OP <input type="radio"/> RE <input type="radio"/> SH	MM / DD / YYYY	FOR CLAIMS PROCESSING ONLY
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IV. SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION OF COURT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I (We) submit this Proof of Claim and Release under the terms of the Stipulation described in the Notice. I (We) also submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the District of Arizona with respect to my (our) claim as a Class Member and for purposes of enforcing the releases set forth herein. I (We) further acknowledge that I am (we are) bound by and subject to the terms of the Stipulation and any judgment that may be entered in the Litigation, including the releases and the covenants set forth herein. I (We) agree to furnish additional information to the Claims Administrator to support this claim if requested to do so. I (We) have not submitted any other claim in connection with the purchase or acquisition of First Solar publicly-traded securities during the Class Period and know of no other person having done so on my (our) behalf.

V. RELEASES

1. I (We) hereby acknowledge full and complete satisfaction of, and do hereby fully, finally, and forever settle, release, and discharge from the Released Claims each and all of the Released Persons.

2. "Released Persons" means each and all of the Defendants and their Related Parties.

3. "Released Claims" means any and all claims (including Unknown Claims), and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, in law, equity, or otherwise, whether accrued or unaccrued, fixed or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, whether arising under federal, state, local, statutory, common law, foreign law, or any other law, rule, or regulation, and whether class, individual, representative, legal, or equitable in nature, concerning, based on, arising out of, or in connection with both: (i) the purchase or other acquisition of First Solar publicly-traded securities by Lead Plaintiffs or any other Class Member during the period between April 30, 2008 and February 28, 2012, inclusive; and (ii) the facts, matters, allegations, transactions, events, disclosures, statements, acts or omissions which have been or could have been asserted by or on behalf of any member of the Class. Released Claims do not include claims to enforce the Settlement, or any shareholder derivative claims on behalf of First Solar being pursued in the Derivative Action.

4. "Released Defendants' Claims" means any and all claims and causes of action of every nature and description whatsoever, including both known claims and Unknown Claims, that arise out of, are based upon, or relate in any way to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims against Defendants in the Litigation, except for claims relating to the enforcement of the Settlement.

5. "Unknown Claims" means (a) any and all Released Claims which the Releasing Plaintiff Parties do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Persons, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement with and release of the Released Persons, or might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement, including, but not limited to, whether or not to object to this Settlement or seek exclusion from the Class; and (b) any and all Released Defendants' Claims that the Released Persons do not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Lead Plaintiffs, the Class and Plaintiffs' Counsel, which, if known by him, her, or it, might have affected his, her, or its settlement and release of Lead Plaintiffs, the Class and Plaintiffs' Counsel. With respect to (a) any and all Released Claims against the Released Persons, and (b) any and all Released Defendants' Claims against Lead Plaintiffs, the Class and Plaintiffs' Counsel, the Settling Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date, the Settling Parties shall expressly waive and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Person shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have expressly waived, the provisions, rights, and benefits of California Civil Code §1542, which provides:

A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

The Settling Parties shall expressly waive and each Releasing Plaintiff Party and Released Person shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment shall have, expressly waived any and all provisions, rights, and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to California Civil Code §1542. The Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Persons acknowledge that they may hereafter discover facts in addition to or different from those which he, she, it or their counsel now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims or Released Defendants' Claims, but (a) the Releasing Plaintiff Parties shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish, and release, and each Releasing Plaintiff Party shall be deemed to have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Claims against the Released Persons, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities, and (b) the Released Persons shall expressly fully, finally, and forever waive, compromise, settle, discharge, extinguish, and release, and upon the Effective Date, and by operation of the Judgment shall have waived, compromised, settled, discharged, extinguished, and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Defendants' Claims against the Lead Plaintiffs, the Class and Plaintiffs' Counsel, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, contingent or non-contingent, whether or not concealed



or hidden, which now exist, or heretofore have existed, upon any theory of law or equity now existing or coming into existence in the future, including, but not limited to, conduct which is negligent, intentional, with or without malice, or a breach of any duty, law or rule, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities. The Settling Parties acknowledge, and the Releasing Plaintiff Parties and Released Persons shall be deemed by operation of the Judgment to have acknowledged, that the foregoing waiver was separately bargained for and is an essential element of the Settlement of which this release is a part.

6. These releases shall be of no force or effect unless and until the Court approves the Stipulation and the Settlement becomes effective on the Effective Date.

7. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have not assigned or transferred or purported to assign or transfer, voluntarily or involuntarily, any claim or matter released pursuant to this release or any other part or portion thereof.

8. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have included information about all of my (our) purchases, acquisitions and sales of First Solar publicly-traded securities during the Class Period and the number of shares of First Solar publicly-traded securities held by me (us) at the close of trading on April 29, 2008, February 28, 2012, and May 29, 2012.

I (We) declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing information supplied by the undersigned is true and correct and that the Claimant has not previously entered into any settlement agreement or provided a release of claims to any Defendant relating to or arising from the purchase or other acquisition of First Solar publicly-traded securities prior to February 28, 2012.

Executed this _____ day of _____ in _____
(Month/Year) (City/State/Country)

(Sign your name here)

(Sign your name here)

(Type or print your name here)

(Type or print your name here)

(Capacity of person(s) signing, e.g.,
Beneficial Purchaser or Acquirer, Executor or Administrator)

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Beneficial Purchaser or Acquirer, Executor or Administrator)

**ACCURATE CLAIMS PROCESSING TAKES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.**

Reminder Checklist:

1. Please sign the above release and declaration.
2. If this claim is being made on behalf of Joint Claimants, then both must sign.
3. Remember to attach copies of supporting documentation, if available.
4. **Do not send** originals of certificates.
5. Keep a copy of your Proof of Claim and all supporting documentation for your records.
6. If you desire an acknowledgment of receipt of your Proof of Claim please send it Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested.
7. If you move, please send your new address to the address below.
8. **Do not use highlighter** on the Proof of Claim or supporting documentation.

**THIS PROOF OF CLAIM MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE OR MAILED NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2020,
ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:**

First Solar Securities Litigation
Claims Administrator
c/o Gilardi & Co. LLC
P.O. Box 43336
Providence, RI 02940-3336

Online Submissions: www.FSLRSecuritiesLitigation.com

