

Greenpeace welcomes Apple's commitment to renewable energy in China

Beijing, April 17, 2015 -In response to an announcement that Apple plans to build two large solar projects in the Sichuan province of China, Greenpeace East Asia Senior Renewable Campaigner Yuan Ying said:

“Apple's announcement is a significant first step toward addressing its energy footprint in China, and sets an important precedent for other companies that have operations in China: they can take action to power their operations with renewable energy. China has promised to increase the share of non-fossil fuels in its energy mix to 15% by 2020, with wind and solar capacities reaching 200 GW and 100 GW respectively. Both local and global companies have begun to pursue renewable energy deals to power their operations in China, and with companies like Apple leading the way, we expect significant growing interest in investing in renewable energy and contribute to this 2020 goal.

“The next step for Apple should be to work with its suppliers to power its manufacturing operations in China with 100% renewable energy. Chinese policies to reduce coal consumption and boost renewable energy are working, but we need more rapid progress to clean up air pollution choking major Chinese cities and achieve a peak and then reduction in Chinese carbon pollution as quickly as possible. Companies with manufacturing operations and large energy consumption in China have a responsibility to help accelerate the shift to renewable energy.”

Electronics manufacturing uses large amounts of energy in China and globally and is growing rapidly, estimated to be as much as 2-3% of global electricity use by 2017.[1]

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[1] Estimated Trends in Electricity Consumption for Consumer ICT(2013)
<http://aran.library.nuigalway.ie/xmlui/handle/10379/3563n>