

## **Independent commentators repeatedly cited Solyndra as an innovative and promising company:**

### **San Jose Mercury News: “Fremont’s Solyndra goes from stealth to solar star”**

October 6, 2008

*Richard Branson, the billionaire entrepreneur and adventurer, thinks Solyndra has a good idea. Branson's Virgin Green Fund got pitches from 117 solar companies but invested in only one, Solyndra, said Anup Jacob, a partner in the fund's San Francisco office. "They have the potential to become the next great energy company," he said.*

### **San Francisco Chronicle: “A bright idea for solar power; Fremont startup’s innovative format saves time and space”**

October 7, 2008

*University and government researchers have tinkered with solar cylinders before, said Daniel Kammen, a professor in the Energy and Resources Group at UC Berkeley. But they didn't get as far as Solyndra, which generated ample buzz while in stealth mode. Kammen sees Solyndra Enhanced Coverage as a sign that the venture capital flowing into young solar companies the past few years is finally going to truly different ideas, not just refinements of older technology. "A lot of smart money has gone into making better versions of existing stuff," Kammen said. "Now we're seeing a push to innovate."*

### **Reuters: “Investors eye top startups as IPO market awakens”**

August 19, 2009

*An informal poll of venture capitalists and others pointed to six privately held companies as the ripest for acquisition or readiness to go public, out of 34 cited in industries ranging from alternative energy to social networking....The top four are business social network LinkedIn, solar panel maker Solyndra, smart grid company Silver Spring, and Zynga, a casual games company whose products run on social networks like Facebook.*

### **San Jose Mercury News: “Solyndra files for \$300 million IPO”**

December 18, 2009

*The company is the 12th venture-capital-backed company to file for a U.S. IPO since Oct. 28, after the slowest two-year period for such deals in 30 years. The O'Neill, a Kaufman Brothers analyst who tracks the solar industry, said Solyndra's panels seem to have promise. "I'm fascinated by the technology," he said. "It's a wonderful concept." Asked about the advisability of Solyndra's IPO, he added, "if you've got some underwriters who say it's a good time, you should go with it. I wish them luck."*

### **MIT’s Technology Review: Solyndra Named As One of the World’s 50 Most Innovative Companies**

February 23, 2010

*“In choosing the TR50, we picked companies with this year’s most important inventions and breakthroughs. But we also selected companies that are successfully growing businesses and markets around innovative new products,” said Jason Pontin, editor in chief and publisher of*

*Technology Review. “The TR50 list is our selection of companies that show the most impressive innovation in commercializing new technologies.”*

**Wall Street Journal: Solyndra Ranked Fifth in “The Next Big Thing: The Top 50 Venture-Backed Companies**

March 9, 2010

*Serving the commercial rooftop market, Solyndra develops solar panels in a cylindrical shape to capture more sunlight than traditional offerings.*