

Vivint Solar, Inc.
Form 10-Q
November 08, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT 1934
For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2016

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF
1934

Commission File Number: 001-36642

VIVINT SOLAR, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 45-5605880
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

1800 West Ashton Blvd.

Lehi, Utah 84043

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(877) 404-4129

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of November 1, 2016, 110,121,252 shares of the registrant’s common stock were outstanding.

Vivint Solar, Inc.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q

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PART I – FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

Vivint Solar, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In thousands, except per share data and footnote 1)

(Unaudited)

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 113,037 | \$ 92,213 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 12,080 | 3,636 |
| Inventories | 6,522 | 631 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 19,422 | 17,078 |
| Total current assets | 151,061 | 113,558 |
| Restricted cash and cash equivalents | 23,469 | 15,035 |
| Solar energy systems, net | 1,389,946 | 1,102,157 |
| Property and equipment, net | 26,176 | 48,168 |
| Intangible assets, net | 1,559 | 2,031 |
| Goodwill | — | 36,601 |
| Prepaid tax asset, net | 399,809 | 277,496 |
| Other non-current assets, net | 15,823 | 14,024 |
| TOTAL ASSETS⁽¹⁾ | \$ 2,007,843 | \$ 1,609,070 |
| LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS AND EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 48,775 | \$ 49,986 |
| Accounts payable—related party | 425 | 1,905 |
| Distributions payable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests | 16,439 | 11,347 |
| Accrued compensation | 24,490 | 13,758 |
| Current portion of deferred revenue | 14,754 | 4,968 |
| Current portion of capital lease obligation | 5,451 | 5,489 |
| Accrued and other current liabilities | 27,378 | 29,017 |
| Total current liabilities | 137,712 | 116,470 |
| Capital lease obligation, net of current portion | 6,756 | 10,055 |
| Long-term debt | 675,978 | 415,850 |
| Deferred tax liability, net | 341,231 | 216,033 |
| Deferred revenue, net of current portion | 36,914 | 43,304 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 9,824 | 28,565 |

| | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total liabilities ⁽¹⁾ | 1,208,415 | 830,277 |
| Commitments and contingencies (Note 17) | | |
| Redeemable non-controlling interests | 137,931 | 169,541 |
| Stockholders' equity: | | |
| Common stock, \$0.01 par value—1,000,000 authorized, 109,868 shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2016; 1,000,000 authorized, 106,576 shares issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2015 | 1,099 | 1,066 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 538,123 | 530,646 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 429 | — |
| Accumulated deficit | (14,921) | (12,769) |
| Total stockholders' equity | 524,730 | 518,943 |
| Non-controlling interests | 136,767 | 90,309 |
| Total equity | 661,497 | 609,252 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES, REDEEMABLE NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS AND EQUITY | \$ 2,007,843 | \$ 1,609,070 |

(1) The Company's assets as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015 include \$1,277.4 million and \$1,005.8 million consisting of assets of variable interest entities, or VIEs, that can only be used to settle obligations of the VIEs. These assets include solar energy systems, net, of \$1,244.9 million and \$990.6 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; cash and cash equivalents of \$22.1 million and \$12.0 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; accounts receivable, net, of \$7.8 million and \$3.1 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; other non-current assets, net of \$1.5 million and a de minimis amount as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; and prepaid expenses and other current assets of \$1.1 million and \$0.1 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. The Company's liabilities as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015 included \$69.5 million and \$66.4 million of liabilities of VIEs whose creditors have no recourse to the Company. These liabilities include distributions payable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests of \$16.4 million and \$11.3 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; deferred revenue of \$44.7 million and \$47.9 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; accrued and other current liabilities of \$6.7 million and \$3.9 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; and other non-current liabilities of \$1.7 million and \$3.3 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. For further information see Note 12—Investment Funds.

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements

Vivint Solar, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations

(In thousands, except per share data)

(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Operating leases and incentives | \$33,394 | \$21,781 | \$80,033 | \$45,662 |
| Solar energy system and product sales | 7,868 | 693 | 13,363 | 2,492 |
| Total revenue | 41,262 | 22,474 | 93,396 | 48,154 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Cost of revenue—operating leases and incentives | 39,268 | 37,624 | 115,566 | 94,799 |
| Cost of revenue—solar energy system and product sales | 6,468 | 470 | 10,606 | 1,384 |
| Sales and marketing | 8,617 | 12,051 | 32,078 | 37,181 |
| Research and development | 842 | 1,047 | 2,218 | 2,549 |
| General and administrative | 19,022 | 21,954 | 60,006 | 71,948 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 342 | 3,711 | 762 | 11,195 |
| Impairment of goodwill and intangible assets | — | — | 36,601 | 4,506 |
| Total operating expenses | 74,559 | 76,857 | 257,837 | 223,562 |
| Loss from operations | (33,297) | (54,383) | (164,441) | (175,408) |
| Interest expense | 9,361 | 3,351 | 22,539 | 8,208 |
| Other (income) expense | (434) | 26 | (95) | 399 |
| Loss before income taxes | (42,224) | (57,760) | (186,885) | (184,015) |
| Income tax (benefit) expense | (2,959) | (7,448) | 10,245 | 15,977 |
| Net loss | (39,265) | (50,312) | (197,130) | (199,992) |
| Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable | | | | |
| non-controlling interests | (55,961) | (50,780) | (194,978) | (226,262) |
| Net income available (loss attributable) to common stockholders | \$16,696 | \$468 | \$(2,152) | \$26,270 |
| Net income available (loss attributable) per share to common | | | | |
| stockholders: | | | | |
| Basic | \$0.15 | \$0.00 | \$(0.02) | \$0.25 |
| Diluted | \$0.15 | \$0.00 | \$(0.02) | \$0.24 |
| Weighted-average shares used in computing net income available | | | | |
| (loss attributable) per share to common stockholders: | | | | |
| Basic | 108,692 | 106,492 | 107,516 | 105,932 |
| Diluted | 113,344 | 110,223 | 107,516 | 109,694 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Vivint Solar, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|--|-------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Net income available (loss attributable) to common stockholders | \$16,696 | \$468 | \$(2,152) | \$26,270 |
| Other comprehensive income: | | | | |
| Unrealized gain on cash flow hedging instruments | | | | |
| (net of tax effect of \$286, \$0, \$286, \$0) | 429 | — | 429 | — |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | \$17,125 | \$468 | \$(1,723) | \$26,270 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

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Vivint Solar, Inc.

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Net loss | \$(197,130) | \$(199,992) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 32,376 | 16,771 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 762 | 11,195 |
| Impairment of goodwill and intangible assets | 36,601 | 4,506 |
| Deferred income taxes | 124,912 | 77,480 |
| Stock-based compensation | 6,145 | 23,206 |
| Loss on solar energy systems and property and equipment | 4,576 | 1,169 |
| Non-cash interest and other expense | 4,963 | 2,557 |
| Gain on ineffective portion of cash flow hedge | (258) | — |
| Reduction in lease pass-through financing obligation | (3,279) | — |
| Excess tax effects from stock-based compensation | (1,280) | — |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | |
| Accounts receivable, net | (8,444) | (3,627) |
| Inventories | (5,891) | 302 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 98 | 1,498 |
| Prepaid tax asset, net | (122,313) | (135,951) |
| Other non-current assets, net | (4,255) | (990) |
| Accounts payable | 664 | 6,570 |
| Accounts payable—related party | (1,480) | (588) |
| Accrued compensation | 8,334 | 3,713 |
| Deferred revenue | 3,396 | 25,761 |
| Accrued and other liabilities | (2,377) | 21,785 |
| Net cash used in operating activities | (123,880) | (144,635) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Payments for the cost of solar energy systems | (318,273) | (383,674) |
| Payments for property and equipment, net | (2,004) | (5,282) |
| Change in restricted cash and cash equivalents | (8,434) | (6,656) |
| Purchase of intangible assets | (291) | (1,675) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (329,002) | (397,287) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Proceeds from investment by non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests | 237,148 | 232,071 |
| Distributions paid to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests | (22,230) | (17,146) |
| Proceeds from long-term debt | 500,257 | 148,000 |

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| | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Payments on long-term debt | (224,400) | — |
| Payments for debt issuance costs | (16,774) | (3,078) |
| Proceeds from lease pass-through financing obligation | 1,417 | 4,005 |
| Principal payments on capital lease obligations | (4,357) | (3,600) |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock | 2,645 | 648 |
| Excess tax effects from stock-based compensation | — | 1,717 |
| Payments for deferred offering costs | — | (589) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities | 473,706 | 362,028 |
| NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 20,824 | (179,894) |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS—Beginning of period | 92,213 | 261,649 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS—End of period | \$113,037 | \$81,755 |
| NONCASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Costs of lessor-financed tenant improvements | \$7,850 | \$— |
| Accrued distributions to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests | \$5,092 | \$1,536 |
| Property acquired under build-to-suit agreements | \$2,896 | \$12,250 |
| Sale-leaseback of property under build-to-suit agreements | \$(28,456) | \$— |
| Vehicles acquired under capital leases | \$1,868 | \$8,882 |
| Receivable for tax credit recorded as a reduction to solar energy system costs | \$1,364 | \$914 |
| Change in fair value of interest rate swap | \$973 | \$— |
| Costs of solar energy systems included in changes in accounts payable, accrued compensation and other accrued liabilities | \$503 | \$28,619 |

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

Vivint Solar, Inc.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

1. Organization

Vivint Solar, Inc. was incorporated as a Delaware corporation on August 12, 2011. Vivint Solar, Inc. and its subsidiaries are collectively referred to as the “Company.” The Company commenced operations in May 2011.

The Company primarily offers solar energy to residential customers through long-term customer contracts, such as power purchase agreements and solar energy system leases. The Company also offers customers the option to purchase solar energy systems. The Company enters into customer contracts primarily through a sales organization that uses a direct-to-home sales model. The long-term customer contracts are typically for 20 years and require the customer to make monthly payments to the Company.

The Company has formed various investment funds and entered into long-term debt facilities to monetize the recurring customer payments under its long-term customer contracts and the investment tax credits, accelerated tax depreciation and other incentives associated with residential solar energy systems. The Company uses the cash received from the investment funds, long-term debt facilities and cash generated from operations to finance a portion of the Company’s variable and fixed costs associated with installing the residential solar energy systems under long-term customer contracts. The obligations of the Company are in no event obligations of the investment funds.

Merger Agreement with SunEdison

On July 20, 2015, the Company entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the “Merger Agreement”) with SunEdison, Inc., a Delaware corporation (“SunEdison”) and SEV Merger Sub, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of SunEdison. The Merger Agreement was subsequently amended on December 9, 2015 to update the terms of the merger. The Company terminated the Merger Agreement on March 7, 2016. On March 8, 2016, the Company filed suit against SunEdison alleging that SunEdison willfully breached its obligations under the Merger Agreement and breached its implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. SunEdison filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in April 2016. On September 13, 2016, the bankruptcy court denied the Company’s motion for relief from the automatic stay, requiring that the Company’s claim for breach of the Merger Agreement be brought in the bankruptcy proceeding. See Note 17—Commitments and Contingencies.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”) and applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission regarding interim financial reporting. Certain information and note disclosures normally included in the financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. As such, these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes included in the Company’s annual report on Form 10-K dated as of March 14, 2016. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements and, in the opinion of management, reflect all adjustments (all of which are considered of normal recurring nature) considered necessary to present fairly the Company’s financial results. The results of the nine months ended September 30, 2016 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016 or for any other interim period or

other future year.

The condensed consolidated financial statements reflect the accounts and operations of the Company and those of its subsidiaries in which the Company has a controlling financial interest. The Company uses a qualitative approach in assessing the consolidation requirement for variable interest entities (“VIEs”). This approach focuses on determining whether the Company has the power to direct the activities of the VIE that most significantly affect the VIE’s economic performance and whether the Company has the obligation to absorb losses, or the right to receive benefits, that could potentially be significant to the VIE. The Company has determined that it is the primary beneficiary in the operational VIEs in which it has an equity interest. The Company evaluates its relationships with the VIEs on an ongoing basis to ensure that it continues to be the primary beneficiary. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. For additional information, see Note 12—Investment Funds.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the condensed consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. The Company regularly makes significant estimates and assumptions including, but not limited to, estimates that affect the Company's principles of consolidation; investment tax credits; revenue recognition; solar energy systems, net; impairment analysis of long-lived assets; goodwill impairment analysis; the recognition and measurement of loss contingencies; stock-based compensation; provision for income taxes; and non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests. The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions believed to be reasonable, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Prior to the three months ended September 30, 2016, the Company had no comprehensive income or loss. For the three months ended September 30, 2016, other comprehensive income (loss) includes an unrealized gain on a derivative financial instrument designated as a cash flow hedge. See “—Derivative Financial Instruments” for accounting policies related to the Company's derivative financial instruments.

Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company entered into an interest rate swap in August 2016 in order to reduce interest rate risk as required by the terms of one of the Company's debt agreements. See Note 10—Debt Obligations. The interest rate swap is designated as a cash flow hedge. Changes in fair value for the effective portion of this cash flow hedge are recorded in other comprehensive income and will subsequently be reclassified to interest expense over the life of the related debt facilities as interest payments are made. Changes in fair value for the ineffective portion of the cash flow hedge are recognized in other (income) expense. See Note 11—Derivative Financial Instruments.

Debt Issuance Costs

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company adopted Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2015-03, which requires that debt issuance costs be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of the associated debt obligation. ASU 2015-15 further clarified that this treatment is not required to be applied to revolving line-of-credit arrangements. The Company applied ASU 2015-03 on a retrospective basis; however, the Company's long-term debt in all prior periods presented was comprised of revolving line-of-credit arrangements. As such, there is no change to the Company's prior period condensed consolidated balance sheets. In 2016, the Company entered into term loan facilities that are presented net of debt issuance costs.

Intangible Assets – Internal-Use Software

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company adopted ASU 2015-05, which requires that if a cloud computing arrangement includes a software license, the payment of fees are accounted for in the same manner as the acquisition of other software licenses. If there is no software license, the fees are accounted for as a service contract. The Company adopted this update prospectively, which did not have a significant impact on the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements in the current period.

Revenue Recognition for Solar Energy System Sales

The revenue from solar energy system sales is recognized upon the solar energy system passing an inspection by the responsible governmental department after completion of system installation and interconnection to the power grid, assuming all other revenue recognition criteria are met.

In connection with a sale, the Company is obligated to assist with processing and submitting customer claims on the manufacturer warranties, provide routine system monitoring services on sold systems and notify the customer of any problems. While the value and nature of these services is not significant, the Company considers these services to have standalone value to the customer. Therefore, the Company allocates a portion of the contract consideration to these administrative and maintenance services based on the relative selling price method and the Company recognizes the deferred revenue over the contractual service term. As of September 30, 2016, the Company's obligations to customers subsequent to the sale of solar energy systems were approximately \$0.2 million. No obligations were recorded as of December 31, 2015 as sales of solar energy systems were de minimis.

Other Changes

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company consolidated its reporting segments as discussed in Note 19—Segment Information.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In October 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the “FASB”) issued ASU 2016-17, Consolidation (Topic 810): Interests held through related parties that are under common control. This update does not change the characteristics of a primary beneficiary in current account guidance, but requires an entity to consider additional factors when determining if it is the primary beneficiary of a VIE that is under common control with related parties. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016 for public business entities. The amendments in this updates should be applied using a modified retrospective approach. The Company is evaluating this update but currently expects it will not have a material impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In October 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-16, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets Other Than Inventory. Current accounting guidance prohibits the recognition of current and deferred income taxes for an intra-entity asset transfer until the asset has been sold to an outside party. This update will require an entity to recognize the income tax consequences of an intra-entity transfer of an asset other than inventory when the transfer occurs. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The amendments in this update should be applied using a modified retrospective approach. The Company is evaluating this update but currently expects it will have a material impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments. This update clarifies how certain cash flows should be classified with the objective of reducing the existing diversity in practice. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The amendments in this update should be applied using a retrospective transition method and must all be applied in the same period. The Company is evaluating the impact of this update on its condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

From March 2016 through May 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-12, ASU 2016-11, ASU 2016-10 and ASU 2016-08. These updates all clarify aspects of the guidance in ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, which represents comprehensive reform to revenue recognition principles related to customer contracts. Additionally, per ASU 2015-14, the effective date of these updates for the Company was deferred to January 1, 2018, with early adoption available on January 1, 2017. The Company currently plans to adopt the new standard in 2018 using the retrospective transition method. The Company is still evaluating the impact this guidance will have on the Company’s condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation—Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting. The objective of this update is to simplify several aspects of the accounting for share-based payment transactions, including the income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities, forfeiture rates and classification on the statement of cash flows. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The Company expects to apply the update upon its effectiveness in the first quarter of 2017 and expects the update to have an impact to its equity balance in the condensed consolidated balance sheet and all expense line items where stock compensation is recorded on the condensed consolidated statement of operations in the first quarter of 2017.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). The objective of this update is to increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. This update primarily changes the recognition by lessees of lease assets and liabilities for leases currently classified as operating leases. Lessor accounting remains largely unchanged. This update is effective in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The amendments should be applied using a modified retrospective approach. The Company has operating leases that will be affected by this update and is evaluating the impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-01, Financial Instruments – Overall (Topic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities. The objective of this update is to enhance the reporting model for financial instruments to provide users of financial statements with more decision-useful information. The amendments in this update address certain aspects of recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of financial instruments. This update is effective in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. The amendments should be applied by means of a cumulative-effect adjustment to the balance sheet as of the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption. The Company does not expect the update to have a significant impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory. This ASU changes the measurement principle for inventories valued under the first-in, first-out ("FIFO") or weighted-average methods from the lower of cost or market to the lower of cost or net realizable value. Net realizable value is defined by the FASB as estimated selling prices in the ordinary course of business, less reasonably predictable costs of completion, disposal and transportation. This ASU does not change the measurement principles for inventories valued under the last-in, first-out method. The update is effective in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted. The Company does not expect this update to have a significant impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

3. Fair Value Measurements

The Company measures and reports its cash equivalents at fair value. The following tables set forth the fair value of the Company's financial assets measured on a recurring basis by level within the fair value hierarchy (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| | Level I | Level II | Level III | Total |
| Financial Assets | | | | |
| Interest rate swap | \$— | \$ 973 | \$ — | \$ 973 |
| Time deposits | — | 100 | — | 100 |
| Total financial assets | \$— | \$ 1,073 | \$ — | \$ 1,073 |
| | | | | |
| | December 31, 2015 | | | |
| | Level I | Level II | Level III | Total |
| Financial Assets | | | | |
| Time deposits | \$— | \$ 1,900 | \$ — | \$ 1,900 |
| Total financial assets | \$— | \$ 1,900 | \$ — | \$ 1,900 |

The interest rate swap (Level II) is valued using a discounted cash flow model which incorporates an assessment of the risk of non-performance by the interest rate swap counterparty and the Company. The valuation model uses various observable inputs including contractual terms, interest rate curves, credit spreads and measures of volatility.

Time deposits (Level II) approximate fair value due to their short-term nature (30 days) and, upon renewal, the interest rate is adjusted based on current market rates. The Company's outstanding principal balance of long-term debt is carried at cost and was \$691.7 million and \$415.9 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. The Company estimated the fair values of long-term debt to approximate its carrying values as interest accrues at floating rates based on market rates. The Company did not realize gains or losses related to financial assets for any of the periods presented.

4. Inventories

Inventories consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Solar energy systems held for sale | \$ 5,780 | \$ 121 |
| Photovoltaic installation devices and software products | 742 | 510 |
| Total inventories | \$ 6,522 | \$ 631 |

Solar energy systems held for sale are solar energy systems under construction that have yet to be interconnected to the power grid and that will be sold to customers. Solar energy systems held for sale are stated at the lower of cost, on a FIFO basis, or market. Photovoltaic installation devices and software products are stated at the lower of cost, on an average cost basis, or market.

5. Solar Energy Systems

Solar energy systems, net consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| System equipment costs | \$ 1,178,684 | \$ 893,088 |
| Initial direct costs related to solar energy systems | 242,220 | 171,081 |
| | 1,420,904 | 1,064,169 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization | (61,542) | (32,505) |
| | 1,359,362 | 1,031,664 |
| Solar energy system inventory | 30,584 | 70,493 |
| Solar energy systems, net | \$ 1,389,946 | \$ 1,102,157 |

Solar energy system inventory represents the solar components and materials used in the installation of solar energy systems prior to being installed on customers' roofs. As such, no depreciation is recorded related to this line item. The Company recorded depreciation and amortization expense related to solar energy systems of \$11.1 million and \$6.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. Depreciation and amortization expense related to solar energy systems of \$29.1 million and \$15.0 million was recorded for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

6. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment, net consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | Estimated Useful Lives | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Vehicles acquired under capital leases | 3 years | \$ 21,558 | \$ 24,149 |
| Leasehold improvements | 1-12 years | 15,060 | 4,116 |
| Furniture and computer and other equipment | 3 years | 6,130 | 6,524 |
| | | 42,748 | 34,789 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization | | (16,572) | (12,181) |
| | | 26,176 | 22,608 |
| Build-to-suit lease asset under construction | | — | 25,560 |
| Property and equipment, net | | \$ 26,176 | \$ 48,168 |

The Company recorded depreciation and amortization related to property and equipment of \$3.0 million and \$2.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. Depreciation and amortization expense related to property and equipment of \$8.2 million and \$5.6 million was recorded for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

The Company leases fleet vehicles that are accounted for as capital leases and are included in property and equipment, net. Of total property and equipment depreciation and amortization, depreciation on vehicles under capital leases of

\$1.5 million and \$1.4 million was capitalized in solar energy systems, net for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. Depreciation on vehicles under capital leases of \$4.8 million and \$3.8 million was capitalized in solar energy systems, net for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

Because of its involvement in certain aspects of the construction of a new headquarters building in Lehi, UT, the Company was deemed the owner of the building for accounting purposes during the construction period. Accordingly, the Company recorded a build-to-suit lease asset and corresponding liabilities during the construction period. In May 2016, construction on the headquarters building was completed. The building qualified for sale-leaseback treatment as the Company determined the lease to be a normal leaseback, payment terms indicated the landlord has continuing investment in the property and the payment terms transferred the risks and rewards of ownership to the landlord. As such, the Company has removed the build-to-suit lease asset and liabilities from its condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2016. For additional information regarding the related build-to-suit liabilities and the resulting ongoing lease, see Note 17—Commitments and Contingencies.

7. Intangible Assets and Goodwill

Intangible Assets

Intangible assets consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Cost: | | |
| Internal-use software | \$ 1,314 | \$ 1,591 |
| Developed technology | 522 | 522 |
| Trademarks/trade names | 201 | 201 |
| Customer relationships | 164 | 164 |
| Total carrying value | 2,201 | 2,478 |
| Accumulated amortization: | | |
| Internal-use software | (325) | (219) |
| Developed technology | (175) | (126) |
| Trademarks/trade names | (54) | (39) |
| Customer relationships | (88) | (63) |
| Total accumulated amortization | (642) | (447) |
| Total intangible assets, net | \$ 1,559 | \$ 2,031 |

The Company recorded amortization expense of \$0.3 million and \$3.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, which was included in amortization of intangible assets in the condensed consolidated statements of operations. The Company recorded amortization expense of \$0.8 million and \$11.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. Internal-use software assets of \$0.6 million reached the end of their useful lives during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and were removed from cost and accumulated amortization.

In February 2015, the Company decided to discontinue the external sales of two Vivint Solar Labs products: the SunEye and PV Designer. This discontinuance was considered an indicator of impairment, and a review regarding the recoverability of the carrying value of the related intangible assets was performed. In-process research and development, which was intended to generate Vivint Solar Labs product sales in the residential market, was discontinued and deemed fully impaired resulting in a charge of \$2.1 million. Certain trade names that will no longer be utilized were deemed fully impaired resulting in a charge of \$1.3 million. The SunEye and PV Designer developed technology assets were deemed fully impaired resulting in a charge of \$0.7 million. Customer relationships were deemed partially impaired by \$0.4 million due to the loss of external customers who purchased the discontinued products. As a result of this review, the Company recorded a total impairment charge of \$4.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2015. In the second quarter of 2016, the Company resumed external sales of the SunEye product.

Goodwill Impairment

Annual Goodwill Impairment Test

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price of an acquired business over the fair value of the net tangible and intangible assets acquired. As of December 31, 2015, the Company consisted of two operating segments: (1)

Residential and (2) Commercial and Industrial (“C&I”). As the C&I business was created in 2015 by the Company, and not acquired, and the Company’s goodwill was recorded prior to 2015, all goodwill remains with the Residential operating segment. As such, the Company’s impairment test is based on a single operating segment and reporting unit structure.

The Company performs its goodwill impairment test annually or whenever events or circumstances change that would indicate that goodwill might be impaired. The Company first assesses qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test. If the qualitative step is not passed, the Company performs a two-step impairment test whereby in the first step, the Company must compare the fair value of the reporting unit with its carrying amount. If the carrying amount exceeds its fair value, the Company performs the second step of the goodwill impairment test to determine the amount of impairment. The second step, measuring the impairment loss, compares the implied fair value of the goodwill with the carrying value of the goodwill. Any excess of the goodwill carrying value over the implied fair value is recognized as an impairment loss.

Based on the results of the annual goodwill impairment analysis in the fourth quarter of 2015, the Company determined the two-step test was not necessary based on its qualitative assessments and concluded that it was more likely than not that the fair value of its Residential reporting unit was greater than its respective carrying value as of October 1, 2015 and 2014.

Goodwill Impairment Test as of March 31, 2016

In conjunction with the acquisition by SunEdison failing to occur, the Company's market capitalization decreased significantly during the first quarter of 2016 from \$1.0 billion as of December 31, 2015 to \$283 million as of March 31, 2016. The Company considered this significant decrease in market capitalization to be an indicator of impairment and the Company performed a step one test for potential impairment as of March 31, 2016.

The step one analysis resulted in the Company concluding that the carrying book value of its Residential reporting unit was higher than the business unit's fair value. Because the Residential reporting unit failed the step one test, the Company was required to perform the step two test, which utilizes a notional purchase price allocation using the estimated fair value from step one as the purchase price to determine the implied value of the reporting unit's goodwill. The completion of the step two test resulted in the determination that the \$36.6 million of the Residential reporting unit's goodwill was fully impaired. The \$36.6 million impairment charge is shown in the line item impairment of goodwill and intangible assets in the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations.

In performing step one of the goodwill impairment test, it was necessary to determine the fair value of the Residential reporting segment. The fair value of the reporting unit was estimated using a discounted cash flow methodology ("DCF"). The market analysis included looking at the valuations of comparable public companies, as well as recent acquisitions of comparable companies. The Residential reporting unit is comprised of many differing consolidated entities and components that have been aggregated for operational and financial reporting purposes. The discount rate is applicable to the Residential reporting unit as a whole and is not intended for use for any individual asset, entity or component of the Company.

Two key inputs to the DCF analysis were the future cash flow projection and the discount rate. The Company used a 30-year future cash flow projection, based on the Company's long-range forecast of current customer contracts and an estimate of customer renewals of 90% subsequent to the 20-year customer contract period, discounted to present value.

The discount rate was determined by estimating the reporting unit's weighted average cost of capital, reflecting the nature of the reporting unit as a whole and the perceived risk of the underlying cash flows. In its DCF methodology, the Company used a 7.25% discount rate for the cash flows related to current customer contracts and a 9.25% discount rate for the estimated cash flows from customer renewals subsequent to the 20-year customer contract period. A higher discount rate was used for the estimated customer renewals due to the increased subjectivity of this cash flow stream. If the Company had varied the discount rates by 1.0%, it would not have impacted the ultimate results of the step one test. The excess of the carrying value over the fair value of the Residential reporting unit was approximately 15%.

Because the Residential reporting unit failed the step one test, the Company was required to perform the step two test, which utilizes a purchase price allocation using the estimated fair value from step one as the purchase price to determine the implied value of the reporting unit's goodwill. The step two test involves allocating the fair value of the Residential reporting unit to all of its assets and liabilities on a fair value basis, with the excess amount representing the implied value of goodwill. As part of this process the fair value of the reporting unit's identifiable assets was determined. The fair values of these assets were determined primarily through the use of the DCF method if the fair value was estimated to differ materially from book value. After determining the fair value of the reporting unit's assets and liabilities and allocating the fair value of the Residential reporting unit to those assets and liabilities, it was determined that there was no implied value of goodwill. The carrying value of the reporting unit's goodwill was \$36.6 million, which resulted in the impairment charge of \$36.6 million, which was recorded in impairment of goodwill and intangible assets in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

8. Accrued Compensation

Accrued compensation consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Accrued payroll | \$ 14,763 | \$ 6,918 |
| Accrued commissions | 8,777 | 6,840 |
| Accrued severance | 950 | — |
| Total accrued compensation | \$ 24,490 | \$ 13,758 |

9. Accrued and Other Current Liabilities

Accrued and other current liabilities consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Current portion of lease pass-through financing obligation | \$ 4,813 | \$ 3,835 |
| Accrued unused commitment fees and interest | 3,212 | 1,014 |
| Income tax payable | 3,194 | 6,169 |
| Accrued professional fees | 3,149 | 7,918 |
| Accrued litigation settlements | 2,772 | 1,790 |
| Accrued return of lease pass-through upfront lease payment | 1,808 | — |
| Sales and use tax payable | 1,751 | 3,524 |
| Deferred rent | 1,414 | 1,064 |
| Other accrued expenses | 5,265 | 3,703 |
| Total accrued and other current liabilities | \$ 27,378 | \$ 29,017 |

10. Debt Obligations

Debt obligations consisted of the following as of September 30, 2016 (in thousands, except interest rates):

| | Principal Borrowings | Unamortized Debt Issuance Costs | Net Carrying Value | Unused Borrowing Capacity | Interest Rate | Maturity Date |
|--|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Revolving lines of credit | | | | | | |
| Aggregation credit facility | \$ 148,500 | \$ — | ⁽¹⁾ \$ 148,500 | \$ 226,500 | 3.8 % | March 2018 |
| Working capital credit facility ⁽²⁾ | 142,600 | — | ⁽¹⁾ 142,600 | — | 3.8 | March 2020 |
| Term loan facility | 300,000 | (10,322) | 289,678 | — | 3.5 | ⁽³⁾ August 2021 |
| Subordinated HoldCo credit facility | 99,750 | (5,239) | 94,511 | 100,000 | 8.6 | March 2020 |
| Credit agreement | 857 | (168) | 689 | 2,143 | 6.5 | ⁽⁴⁾ |
| Total debt | \$ 691,707 | \$ (15,729) | \$ 675,978 | \$ 328,643 | | |

Debt obligations consisted of the following as of December 31, 2015 (in thousands, except interest rates):

| | Principal Borrowings | Unamortized Debt Issuance Costs | Net Carrying Value | Unused Borrowing Capacity | Interest Rate | Maturity Date |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Aggregation credit facility | \$ 269,100 | \$ — | ⁽¹⁾ \$ 269,100 | \$ 105,900 | 3.8 % | March 2018 |
| Working capital credit facility | 146,750 | — | ⁽¹⁾ 146,750 | — | 3.5 | March 2020 |
| Total debt | \$ 415,850 | \$ — | \$ 415,850 | \$ 105,900 | | |

- (1) Revolving lines of credit are not presented net of unamortized debt issuance costs. See Note 2—Summary of Significant Accounting Policies.
- (2) Facility is recourse debt, which refers to debt that is collateralized by the Company's general assets. All of the Company's other debt obligations are non-recourse, which refers to debt that is only collateralized by specified assets or subsidiaries of the Company.
- (3) The interest rate of this facility is partially hedged to an effective interest rate of 4.0% for \$270.0 million of the principal borrowings. See Note 11—Derivative Financial Instruments.
- (4) Quarterly payments of principal and interest are payable over a seven year term. The seven year term begins after the final completion date of the underlying solar energy systems.

Term Loan Facility

In August 2016, the Company entered into a credit agreement (the “Term Loan Facility”) pursuant to which it may borrow up to \$313.0 million aggregate principal amount of term borrowings and letters of credit from certain financial institutions for which Investec Bank PLC is acting as administrative agent. The borrower under the Term Loan Facility is Vivint Solar Financing II, LLC, a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of the Company. Proceeds of \$300.0 million in term loan borrowings under the Term Loan Facility were used to: (1) repay \$220.5 million of existing indebtedness under the Aggregation Facility to remove the portfolio of projects being used as collateral for the Term Loan Facility (the “Portfolio”); (2) distribute \$63.6 million to the Company; (3) pay \$10.6 million in transaction costs and fees in connection with the Term Loan Facility; and (4) fund \$5.3 million in agreed reserve accounts. Additionally, letters of credit for up to \$13.0 million were issued for a debt service reserve.

For the initial four years of the term of the Term Loan Facility, interest on borrowings accrues at an annual rate equal to the London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) plus 3.00%. Thereafter interest accrues at an annual rate equal to LIBOR plus 3.25%. In the third quarter of 2016, the Company entered into an interest rate swap hedging arrangement such that 90% of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding term loan is subject to a fixed interest rate. See Note 11—Derivative Financial Instruments. Certain principal payments are due on a quarterly basis, at the end of January, April, July and October of each year, subject to the occurrence of certain events, including failure to meet certain distribution conditions, proceeds received by the borrower or subsidiary guarantors in respect of casualties, and proceeds received for purchased systems. Principal and interest payable under the Term Loan Facility mature in August 2021 and optional prepayments, in whole or in part, are permitted under the Term Loan Facility, without premium or penalty apart from any customary LIBOR breakage provisions.

The Term Loan Facility includes customary events of default, conditions to borrowing and covenants, including negative covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the borrower’s and guarantors’ ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make fundamental changes to their respective businesses, make certain types of restricted payments and investments or enter into certain transactions with affiliates. A debt service reserve account was funded with the outstanding letters of credit under the Term Loan Facility. As such, the debt service reserve is not classified as restricted cash and cash equivalents on the condensed consolidated balance sheets. The borrower is required to maintain an average debt service coverage ratio of 1.55 to 1. As of September 30, 2016, the Company was in compliance with such covenants.

Prior to the maturity of the Term Loan Facility, a fund investor could exercise a put option in two of the Company’s investment funds and require the Company to purchase the fund investor’s interest in those investment funds. As such, the Company was required to establish a \$2.9 million reserve at the inception of the Term Loan Facility in order to pay the fund investor if either of the put options is exercised prior to the maturity of the Term Loan Facility. In addition, a \$2.4 million escrow account was established with respect to those systems in the Portfolio that had not been placed in service as of the closing date, with a single disbursement of this amount to occur once such systems have been placed in service, subject to compliance with the Portfolio concentration restrictions and limitations related to the Portfolio. These reserves are classified as restricted cash and cash equivalents on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

The obligations of the borrower are secured by a pledge of the membership interests in the borrower, all of the borrower’s assets, and the assets of the borrower’s directly owned subsidiaries acting as managing members of the underlying investment funds. In addition, the Company guarantees certain obligations of the borrower under the Term Loan Facility.

Interest expense for the Term Loan Facility was approximately \$2.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016. No interest expense was incurred for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Subordinated HoldCo Facility

In March 2016, the Company entered into a financing agreement (the “Subordinated HoldCo Facility,” formerly known as the “Term Loan Facility”) pursuant to which it may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$200.0 million of term loan borrowings from investment funds and accounts advised by HPS Investment Partners, formerly known as Highbridge Principal Strategies, LLC. The borrower under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility is Vivint Solar Financing Holdings, LLC, one of the Company’s subsidiaries. The initial \$75.0 million in borrowings are referred to as “Tranche A” borrowings. The remaining \$125.0 million aggregate principal amount in borrowings may be incurred in three installments of at least \$25.0 million aggregate principal amount prior to March 2017. Such subsequent borrowings are referred to as “Tranche B” borrowings. The Company incurred \$25.0 million in Tranche B borrowings in July 2016. As a result, the maturity date for all borrowings was extended to March 2020. The Company may not prepay any borrowings until March 2018 and any subsequent prepayments of principal are subject to a 3.0% fee. Borrowings under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility will be used for the construction and acquisition of solar energy systems.

Prior to the Tranche B borrowings being incurred, interest on principal borrowings under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility accrued at a floating rate of LIBOR plus 5.5%. Subsequent to the Tranche B borrowings being incurred, interest accrues at a floating rate of LIBOR plus 8.0%. The Subordinated HoldCo Facility includes customary events of default, conditions to borrowing and covenants, including covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the borrower's, and the guarantors' ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make investments, make fundamental changes to their business, dispose of assets, make certain types of restricted payments or enter into certain related party transactions. These restrictions do not impact the Company's ability to enter into investment funds, including those that are similar to those entered into previously. Additionally, the parties to the Subordinated HoldCo Facility must maintain certain consolidated and project subsidiary loan-to-value ratios and a consolidated debt service coverage ratio, with such covenants to be tested as of the last day of each fiscal quarter and upon each incurrence of borrowings. As of September 30, 2016, the Company was in compliance with such covenants. Each of the parties to the Subordinated HoldCo Facility has pledged assets not otherwise pledged under another existing debt facility as collateral to secure their obligations under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility. Vivint Solar Financing Holdings Parent, LLC, another of the Company's subsidiaries and the parent company of the borrower and certain other of the Company's subsidiaries guarantee the borrower's obligations under the financing agreement.

Interest expense for the Subordinated HoldCo Facility was approximately \$2.6 million and \$4.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016. No interest expense was recorded for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. A \$5.1 million interest reserve amount was deposited in an interest reserve account with the administrative agent and is included in restricted cash and cash equivalents. The interest reserve increases as borrowings increase under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility.

Bank of America, N.A. Aggregation Credit Facility

In September 2014, the Company entered into an aggregation credit facility (as amended, the "Aggregation Facility"), pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to an aggregate of \$375.0 million and, upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and the approval of the lenders, up to an additional aggregate of \$175.0 million in borrowings with certain financial institutions for which Bank of America, N.A. is acting as administrative agent.

Prepayments are permitted under the Aggregation Facility, and the principal and accrued interest on any outstanding loans mature in March 2018. Under the Aggregation Facility, interest on borrowings accrues at a floating rate equal to either (1)(a) LIBOR or (b) the greatest of (i) the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.5%, (ii) the administrative agent's prime rate and (iii) LIBOR plus 1% and (2) a margin that varies between 3.25% during the period during which the Company may incur borrowings and 3.50% after such period. Interest is payable at the end of each interest period that the Company may elect as a term of either one, two or three months.

The borrower under the Aggregation Facility is Vivint Solar Financing I, LLC, one of the Company's indirect wholly owned subsidiaries, which in turn holds the Company's interests in the managing members in the Company's existing investment funds. These managing members guarantee the borrower's obligations under the Aggregation Facility. In addition, Vivint Solar Financing I Parent, LLC, has pledged its interests in the borrower, and the borrower has pledged its interests in the guarantors as security for the borrower's obligations under the Aggregation Facility. The related solar energy systems are not subject to any security interest of the lenders, and there is no recourse to the Company in the case of a default.

The Aggregation Facility includes customary covenants, including covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the borrower's, and the guarantors' ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make investments, make fundamental changes to their business, dispose of assets, make certain types of restricted payments or enter into certain related party transactions. Among other restrictions, the Aggregation Facility provides that the borrower may not incur any indebtedness other than that related to the Aggregation Facility or in respect of permitted swap

agreements, and that the guarantors may not incur any indebtedness other than that related to the Aggregation Facility or as permitted under existing investment fund transaction documents. These restrictions do not impact the Company's ability to enter into investment funds, including those that are similar to those entered into previously. As of September 30, 2016, the Company was in compliance with such covenants. Previously, the Company was required to obtain an interest rate hedge by September 13, 2016. As of September 30, 2016, the Company is now required to obtain the interest rate hedge by January 16, 2017, and no interest rate hedge has been entered into for this facility.

The Aggregation Facility also contains certain customary events of default. If an event of default occurs, lenders under the Aggregation Facility will be entitled to take various actions, including the acceleration of amounts due under the Aggregation Facility and foreclosure on the interests of the borrower and the guarantors that have been pledged to the lenders.

Interest expense was approximately \$3.0 million and \$2.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. Interest expense was approximately \$11.2 million and \$7.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. As of September 30, 2016, the current portion of debt issuance costs of \$4.0 million was recorded in prepaid expenses and other current assets, and the long-term portion of debt issuance costs of \$1.9 million was recorded in other non-current assets, net in the condensed consolidated balance sheet. In addition, a \$3.0 million interest reserve amount was deposited in an interest reserve account with the administrative agent and is included in restricted cash and cash equivalents. The interest reserve increases as borrowings increase under the Aggregation Facility.

Working Capital Credit Facility

In March 2015, the Company entered into a revolving credit agreement (the “Working Capital Facility”) pursuant to which the Company may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$150.0 million from certain financial institutions for which Goldman Sachs Lending Partners LLC is acting as administrative agent and collateral agent. Loans under the Working Capital Facility will be used to pay for the costs incurred in connection with the design and construction of solar energy systems, and letters of credit may be issued for working capital and general corporate purposes. In addition to the outstanding borrowings as of September 30, 2016, the Company had established letters of credit under the Working Capital Facility for up to \$7.4 million related to insurance contracts.

The Company has pledged the interests in the assets of the Company and its subsidiaries, excluding the Company’s existing investment funds, their managing members, the Term Loan Facility, the Subordinated HoldCo Facility, the Aggregation Facility and Solmetric Corporation, as security for its obligations under the Working Capital Facility. Prepayments are permitted under the Working Capital Facility, and the principal and accrued interest on any outstanding loans mature in March 2020. Interest accrues on borrowings at a floating rate equal to, dependent on the type of borrowing, (1) a rate equal to the Eurodollar Rate for the interest period divided by one minus the Eurodollar Reserve Percentage, plus a margin of 3.25%; or (2) the highest of (a) the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.50%, (b) the Citibank prime rate and (c) the one-month interest period Eurodollar rate plus 1.00%, plus a margin of 2.25%. Interest is payable dependent on the type of borrowing at the end of (1) the interest period that the Company may elect as a term and not to exceed three months, (2) quarterly or (3) at maturity of the Working Capital Facility.

The Working Capital Facility includes customary covenants, including covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the Company’s ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make investments, make fundamental changes to its business, dispose of assets, make certain types of restricted payments or enter into certain related party transactions. Among other restrictions, the Working Capital Facility provides that the Company may not incur any indebtedness other than that related to the Working Capital Facility or permitted swap agreements. These restrictions do not impact the Company’s ability to enter into investment funds, including those that are similar to those entered into previously. The Company is also required to maintain \$25.0 million in cash and cash equivalents and certain investments as of the last day of each quarter. As of September 30, 2016, the Company was in compliance with such covenants.

The Working Capital Facility also contains certain customary events of default. If an event of default occurs, lenders under the Working Capital Facility will be entitled to take various actions, including the acceleration of amounts then outstanding.

Interest expense for this facility was approximately \$1.4 million and \$0.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. Interest expense was approximately \$4.4 million and \$1.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. As of September 30, 2016, the current portion of debt issuance costs of \$0.5 million was recorded in prepaid expenses and other current assets, and the long-term portion of debt issuance costs of \$1.4 million was recorded in other non-current assets, net in the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

Credit Agreement

In February 2016, a subsidiary of the Company entered into a credit agreement (the “Credit Agreement”) pursuant to which Goldman Sachs, through GSUIG Real Estate Member LLC, committed to lend an aggregate principal amount of \$3.0 million. Proceeds from the Credit Agreement are to be used for the deployment of certain solar energy systems. Quarterly payments of principal and interest are due over a seven year term. The seven year term begins after the final completion date of the underlying solar energy systems. Interest accrues on borrowings at a rate of 6.50%.

The repayment term had not yet begun as of September 30, 2016. Interest expense under the Credit Agreement was de minimis for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016. No interest expense was recorded for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Interest Expense and Amortization of Debt Issuance Costs

For the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, total interest expense incurred under all debt obligations was approximately \$9.2 million and \$3.3 million, of which \$1.8 million and \$0.9 million was amortization of debt issuance costs. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, total interest expense incurred under all debt obligations was approximately \$22.2 million and \$8.1 million, of which \$4.5 million and \$2.6 million was amortization of debt issuance costs.

11. Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivative financial instruments consisted of the following at fair value (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------|
| | Balance Sheet | |
| | Fair | |
| | Value | Location |
| Asset derivatives designated as hedging instruments: | | |
| Interest rate swap | \$973 | Other non-current assets |
| Total derivatives | \$973 | |

The Company is exposed to interest rate risk relating to its outstanding debt facilities which have variable interest rates. In connection with closing the Term Loan Facility in August 2016, the Company entered into an interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$270.0 million to offset changes in the variable interest rate for a portion of the Company's LIBOR-indexed floating-rate loans. The notional amount of the interest rate swap decreases through July 31, 2028 to match the Company's estimated quarterly principal payments on its loans through that date. The Company had no other derivative financial instruments prior to entering into this interest rate swap. The Company records derivatives in the condensed consolidated balance sheets at fair value.

The interest rate swap is designated as a cash flow hedge. The amount of accumulated other comprehensive income expected to be reclassified to interest expense within the next 12 months is approximately \$0.9 million. The Company will discontinue the hedge accounting designation of this derivative if the payment schedule of the Term Loan Facility is accelerated and the derivative becomes less than highly effective.

The effect of derivative financial instruments on the condensed consolidated statements of comprehensive income and the condensed consolidated statements of operations, before tax effect, consisted of the following (in thousands):

| | Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, | | |
|--|---|------|------------------|
| | 2016 | 2015 | Location of Gain |
| Gain recognized in OCI - effective portion: | | | |
| Interest rate swap | \$ 715 | \$ — | |
| Total | \$ 715 | \$ — | |
| Gain recognized in income - ineffective portion: | | | |
| Interest rate swap | \$ 258 | \$ — | Other income |
| Total | \$ 258 | \$ — | |

12. Investment Funds

As of September 30, 2016, the Company had 17 investment funds for the purpose of funding the purchase of solar energy systems. The aggregate carrying value of these funds' assets and liabilities (after elimination of intercompany transactions and balances) in the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets were as follows (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 22,149 | \$ 12,014 |
| Accounts receivable, net | 7,781 | 3,063 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 1,118 | 121 |
| Total current assets | 31,048 | 15,198 |
| Solar energy systems, net | 1,244,876 | 990,609 |
| Other non-current assets, net | 1,459 | 18 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,277,383 | \$ 1,005,825 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Distributions payable to non-controlling interests and redeemable | | |
| non-controlling interests | \$ 16,439 | \$ 11,347 |
| Current portion of deferred revenue | 8,145 | 4,824 |
| Accrued and other current liabilities | 6,690 | 3,869 |
| Total current liabilities | 31,274 | 20,040 |
| Deferred revenue, net of current portion | 36,505 | 43,094 |
| Other non-current liabilities | 1,710 | 3,283 |
| Total liabilities | \$ 69,489 | \$ 66,417 |

Residential Investment Funds

As of September 30, 2016, the Company had 17 residential investment funds. Fund investors for three of the funds are managed indirectly by The Blackstone Group L.P. (the "Sponsor") and are considered related parties. As of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the cumulative total of contributions into the VIEs by all investors was \$1,009.6 million and \$773.0 million. Of these contributions, a cumulative total of \$110.0 million was contributed by related parties in prior periods.

Lease Pass-Through Financing Obligation

In June 2015, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company entered into a lease pass-through fund arrangement that became operational in July 2015. Under the agreement, the Company contributes solar energy systems and the investor contributes cash. The net carrying value of the related solar energy systems was \$63.3 million and \$64.7 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015.

Under the arrangement, the fund investor makes a large upfront payment to the Company's subsidiary and subsequent periodic payments. The Company allocates a portion of the aggregate payments received from the fund investor to the

estimated fair value of assigned ITCs, and the balance to the future customer lease payments that are also assigned to the investor. The fair value of the ITCs is estimated by multiplying the ITC rate of 30% by the fair value of the systems that are sold to the lease pass-through fund. The Company's subsidiary has an obligation to ensure the solar energy system is in service and operational for a term of five years to avoid any recapture of the ITCs. Accordingly, the Company recognizes revenue as the recapture provisions lapse assuming all other revenue recognition criteria have been met. The unrecognized revenue allocated to ITCs is recorded as deferred revenue in the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

The Company accounts for the residual of the payments received from the fund investor, net of amounts allocated to ITCs, as a borrowing by recording the proceeds received as a lease pass-through financing obligation, which will be repaid through customer payments that will be received by the investor. Under this approach, the Company continues to account for the arrangement with the customers in its condensed consolidated financial statements, whether the cash generated from the customer arrangements is received by the lessor or paid directly to the fund investor. A portion of the amounts received by the fund investor from customer payments is applied to reduce the lease pass-through financing obligation, and the balance is allocated to interest expense. The customer payments are recognized into revenue based on cash receipts during the period as required by GAAP.

As of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the Company had recorded financing liabilities of \$43.6 million and \$47.3 million related to this fund arrangement, of which \$37.1 million and \$40.1 million was deferred revenue and \$6.5 million and \$7.2 million was the lease pass-through financing obligation recorded in other liabilities.

Guarantees

With respect to the investment funds, the Company and the fund investors have entered into guaranty agreements under which the Company guarantees the performance of certain financial obligations of its subsidiaries to the investment funds. These guarantees do not result in the Company being required to make payments to the fund investors unless such payments are mandated by the investment fund governing documents and the investment fund fails to make such payment. The Company is contractually obligated to make certain VIE investors whole for losses that the investors may suffer in certain limited circumstances resulting from the disallowance or recapture of investment tax credits.

From time to time, the Company incurs penalties for non-performance, which non-performance may include delays in the installation process and interconnection to the power grid of solar energy systems and other factors. Based on the terms of the investment fund agreements, the Company will either reimburse a portion of the fund investor's capital or pay the fund investor a non-performance fee. The Company paid a fee of \$1.0 million to terminate and release any and all claims related to its C&I investment fund during the nine months ended September 30, 2016. As of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the Company had accrued \$8.9 million and \$5.2 million in potential distributions to reimburse fund investors a portion of their upfront lease payments and capital contributions in order to true-up the investors' expected rate of return primarily due to delays in solar energy systems being interconnected to the power grid.

As a result of the guaranty arrangements in certain funds, the Company was required to hold a minimum cash balance of \$10.0 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, which is classified as restricted cash and cash equivalents on the condensed consolidated balance sheets.

13. Redeemable Non-Controlling Interests and Equity Common Stock

The Company had reserved shares of common stock for issuance as follows (in thousands):

| | September 30, 2016 | December 31, 2015 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Shares available for grant under equity incentive plans | 10,131 | 12,267 |
| Restricted stock units issued and outstanding | 7,791 | 930 |
| Stock options issued and outstanding | 6,198 | 9,277 |

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| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Long-term incentive plan | 2,706 | 3,382 |
| Total | 26,826 | 25,856 |

Redeemable Non-Controlling Interests, Equity and Non-Controlling Interests

The changes in redeemable non-controlling interests were as follows (in thousands):

| | |
|---|------------|
| Balance as of December 31, 2015 | \$ 169,541 |
| Contributions from redeemable non-controlling interests | 42,803 |
| Distributions to redeemable non-controlling interests | (6,612) |
| Net loss | (67,801) |
| Balance as of September 30, 2016 | \$ 137,931 |

The changes in stockholders' equity and non-controlling interests were as follows (in thousands):

| | Total | | |
|--|---------------|-----------------|-----------|
| | Stockholders' | Non-Controlling | Total |
| | Equity | Interests | Equity |
| Balance as of December 31, 2015 | \$ 518,943 | \$ 90,309 | \$609,252 |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 6,145 | — | 6,145 |
| Excess tax effects from stock-based compensation | (1,280) | — | (1,280) |
| Issuance of common stock | 2,645 | — | 2,645 |
| Contributions from non-controlling interests | — | 194,345 | 194,345 |
| Distributions to non-controlling interests | — | (20,710) | (20,710) |
| Change in comprehensive income | 429 | — | 429 |
| Net loss | (2,152) | (127,177) | (129,329) |
| Balance as of September 30, 2016 | \$ 524,730 | \$ 136,767 | \$661,497 |

Non-Controlling Interests and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interests

Six of the investment funds include a right for the non-controlling interest holder to elect to require the Company's wholly owned subsidiary to purchase all of its membership interests in the fund after a stated period of time (each, a "Put Option"). In one of the investment funds, the Company's wholly owned subsidiary has the right to elect to require the non-controlling interest holder to sell all of its membership units to the Company's wholly owned subsidiary (a "Call Option") after the expiration of the non-controlling interest holder's Put Option. In the five other investment funds that have Put Options, the Company's wholly owned subsidiary has a Call Option for a stated period prior to the effectiveness of the Put Option. In ten other investment funds there is a Call Option which is exercisable after a stated period of time. One investment fund has neither a Put Option nor a Call Option.

The purchase price for the fund investor's interest in the six investment funds under the Put Options is the greater of fair market value at the time the option is exercised and a specified amount, ranging from \$0.7 million to \$4.1 million. The Put Options for these six investment funds are exercisable beginning on the date that specified conditions are met for each respective fund. None of the Put Options are expected to become exercisable prior to 2019.

Because the Put Options represent redemption features that are not solely within the control of the Company, the non-controlling interests in these investment funds are presented outside of permanent equity. Redeemable non-controlling interests are reported using the greater of their carrying value at each reporting date (which is impacted by attribution under the hypothetical liquidation at book value method) or their estimated redemption value in each reporting period. The carrying values of redeemable non-controlling interests at September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015 were greater than or equal to the redemption values.

The purchase price for the fund investors' interests under the Call Options varies by fund, but is generally the greater of a specified amount, which ranges from approximately \$0.7 million to \$7.0 million, the fair market value of such interest at the time the option is exercised, or an amount that causes the fund investor to achieve a specified return on investment. The Call Options are exercisable beginning on the date that specified conditions are met for each respective fund. None of the Call Options are expected to become exercisable prior to 2019.

14. Equity Compensation Plans

Equity Incentive Plans

2014 Equity Incentive Plan

The Company adopted the 2014 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2014 Plan”) in September 2014. Under the 2014 Plan, the Company may grant stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, performance units, performance shares and performance awards to its employees, directors and consultants, and its parent and subsidiary corporations’ employees and consultants.

As of September 30, 2016, a total of 10.1 million shares of common stock are available to grant under the 2014 plan, subject to adjustment in the case of certain events. In addition, any shares that otherwise would be returned to the Omnibus Plan (as defined below) as the result of the expiration or termination of stock options may be added to the 2014 Plan. The number of shares available to grant under the 2014 Plan is subject to an annual increase on the first day of each year. In accordance with the annual increase, an additional 4.3 million shares became available to grant at the beginning of 2016 under the 2014 Plan.

As of September 30, 2016, there were 0.2 million time-based stock options, 6.0 million restricted stock units (“RSUs”), and 1.8 million performance share units (“PSUs”) outstanding under the 2014 Plan. The time-based options are subject to ratable time-based vesting over three to four years. The RSUs are subject to ratable time-based vesting over one to four years. The PSUs vest quarterly or annually over one to four years subject to individual participants’ achievement of respective quarterly or annual performance goals.

2013 Omnibus Incentive Plan; Non-plan Option Grant

The Company’s 2013 Omnibus Incentive Plan (the “Omnibus Plan”) was terminated in connection with the adoption of the 2014 Plan in September 2014, and accordingly no additional shares are available for grant under the Omnibus Plan. The Omnibus Plan will continue to govern outstanding awards granted under the plan.

During 2014 and 2013, the Company granted stock options of which one-third are subject to ratable time-based vesting over a five year period and two-thirds are subject to vesting upon certain performance conditions and the achievement of certain investment return thresholds by 313 Acquisition LLC, a subsidiary of the Company’s Sponsor. Certain of the performance options were modified as described in the section captioned “Equity Award Modifications”. The stock options have a ten-year contractual period.

Long-term Incentive Plan

In July 2013, the Company’s board of directors approved 4.1 million shares of common stock for six Long-term Incentive Plan Pools (“LTIP Pools”) that comprise the 2013 Long-term Incentive Plan (the “LTIP”). The purpose of the LTIP is to attract and retain key service providers and strengthen their commitment to the Company by providing incentive compensation measured by reference to the value of the shares of the Company’s common stock. Eligible participants include nonemployee direct sales personnel who sell the solar energy system contracts, employees that install and maintain the solar energy systems and employees that recruit new employees to the Company.

As of September 30, 2016, 1.1 million shares of common stock had been awarded to participants under the LTIP. As of September 30, 2016, 2.7 million shares remained outstanding, as 0.3 million shares represented the exercise price that were returned to the 2014 Plan.

Equity Award Modifications

Former CEO Resignation

On May 2, 2016, the Company accepted the resignation of its former CEO. Pursuant to a separation agreement, the Company accelerated the vesting of 0.2 million of the former CEO’s stock options. Further, all of the CEO’s vested stock options were modified such that they will remain exercisable until the third anniversary of his termination date. As a result of these modifications, the Company recorded incremental stock-based compensation expense of \$0.7 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Interim CEO Equity Awards

On May 2, 2016, the Company appointed an interim CEO. In connection with his appointment, the interim CEO was awarded 1.0 million stock options pursuant to the 2014 Plan. The stock options vest on the first anniversary of his start date, or, if earlier, on the date on which a successor CEO is appointed. On May 11, 2016, the Company cancelled such stock options and granted the interim CEO 0.5 million RSUs which vest on the first anniversary of his start date, or, if earlier, on the date on which a successor CEO is appointed. This was accounted for as a modification; however, there was no incremental value arising from the modification.

Omnibus Plan Performance Options

In May 2016, the Company modified the unvested Omnibus Plan performance options (the “Tier II Options”). The modified Tier II Options vest annually over three years with the first vesting date occurring in May 2017. The original performance condition for the Tier II Options remains in effect and will trigger immediate vesting of the Tier II Options if it is met prior to the three year time-based vesting period. Due to the modification, the Company now considers the Tier II Options to be time-based options. Additionally, the Company will record incremental stock-based compensation expense of approximately \$1.5 million over the three year time-based vesting period, subject to immediate acceleration if the performance condition is met prior to the three year time-based vesting period.

Stock Options

Stock Option Activity

Stock options are granted under the 2014 Plan and Omnibus Plan as described above. Stock option activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 was as follows (in thousands, except term and per share amounts):

| | Shares Underlying Options | Weighted- Average Exercise Price | Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Term | Aggregate Intrinsic Value |
|--|---------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Outstanding—December 31, 2015 | 9,277 | \$ 1.36 | | \$ 76,488 |
| Granted | 1,078 | 3.21 | | |
| Exercised | (2,415) | 1.08 | | |
| Cancelled | (1,742) | 2.69 | | |
| Outstanding—September 30, 2016 | 6,198 | \$ 1.41 | 6.5 | \$ 11,922 |
| Options vested and exercisable—September 30, 2016 | 1,996 | \$ 1.51 | 6.5 | \$ 3,766 |
| Options vested and expected to vest—September 30, 2016 | 3,751 | \$ 1.52 | 6.8 | \$ 7,078 |

The weighted-average grant date fair value of time-based stock options granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015 was \$2.23 and \$9.39 per share. No performance-based stock options were granted during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. The total intrinsic value of options exercised for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015 was \$5.0 million and \$7.4 million. Intrinsic value is calculated as the difference between the exercise price of the underlying stock options and the fair value of the common stock for the options that had exercise prices that were lower than the fair value per share of the common stock.

The total fair value of stock options vested for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015 was \$1.0 million and \$14.1 million.

Determination of Fair Value of Stock Options

The Company estimates the fair value of the time-based stock options granted on each grant date using the Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing model and applies the accelerated attribution method for expense recognition. The fair values using the Black-Scholes-Merton method were estimated on each grant date using the following weighted-average assumptions:

| | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2016 2015 | |
|--------------------------|--|--------|
| Expected term (in years) | 5.5 | 6.2 |
| Volatility | 84.9 % | 89.0 % |
| Risk-free interest rate | 1.4 % | 1.8 % |

Dividend yield 0.0 % 0.0 %

Restricted Stock Units

RSUs are granted under the 2014 Plan and the LTIP as described above. RSU activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 was as follows (awards in thousands):

| | Number of Awards | Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Outstanding at December 31, 2015 | 930 | \$ 12.84 |
| Granted | 8,588 | 2.66 |
| Vested | (877) | 6.83 |
| Forfeited | (850) | 4.16 |
| Outstanding at September 30, 2016 | 7,791 | \$ 3.25 |

The total fair value of RSUs vested was \$3.1 million and \$8.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. The Company determines the fair value of RSUs granted on each grant date based on the fair value of the Company's common stock on the grant date.

Stock-Based Compensation Expense

Stock-based compensation was included in operating expenses as follows (in thousands):

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--------------------------------|--|---------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Cost of revenue | \$877 | \$181 | \$1,817 | \$2,754 |
| Sales and marketing | 860 | 751 | 2,473 | 10,054 |
| General and administrative | 1,940 | 1,512 | 2,493 | 10,122 |
| Research and development | 1 | 152 | (638) | 276 |
| Total stock-based compensation | \$3,678 | \$2,596 | \$6,145 | \$23,206 |

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, several of the Company's senior management, including the Company's former CEO, left the Company. The Company reversed all stock-based compensation expense for awards that were forfeited by the terminated employees, which reduced stock-based compensation expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 below historical levels. As a result of these and other terminations, the Company increased its forfeiture rate during the nine months ended September 30, 2016, which is reflected in stock-based compensation expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Unrecognized stock-based compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, for time-based stock options, RSUs and PSUs as of September 30, 2016 was as follows (in thousands, except years):

| | Unrecognized Stock-Based Compensation Expense | Weighted- Average Period of Recognition |
|--|--|---|
| Time-based stock options | \$ 2,171 | 2.5 |
| RSUs and PSUs | 16,186 | 1.7 |
| Total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense as of September 30, 2016 | \$ 18,357 | |

15. Income Taxes

The income tax expense for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015 was calculated on a discrete basis resulting in a consolidated quarterly effective income tax rate of 7.0% and 12.9%. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, the Company's consolidated effective income rate was (5.5)% and (8.7)%. The variations between the consolidated effective income tax rate and the U.S. federal statutory rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 were primarily attributable to the effect of non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests, federal investment tax credits, amortization of the prepaid tax asset, and for the

nine months ended September 30, 2016, the goodwill impairment charge. The variations between the consolidated effective income tax rate and the U.S. federal statutory rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015 were primarily attributable to the effect of non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests.

The Company sells solar energy systems to the investment funds for income tax purposes. As the investment funds are consolidated by the Company, the gain on the sale of the solar energy systems is not recognized in the condensed consolidated financial statements. However, this gain is recognized for tax reporting purposes. Since these transactions are intercompany sales for GAAP purposes, any tax expense incurred related to these intercompany sales is deferred and amortized over the estimated useful life of the underlying solar energy systems, which has been estimated to be 30 years. Accordingly, the Company has recorded a prepaid tax asset, net, of \$399.8 million and \$277.5 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015.

Uncertain Tax Positions

As of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the Company had no unrecognized tax benefits. There was no interest and penalties accrued for any uncertain tax positions as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. The Company does not have any tax positions for which it is reasonably possible the total amount of gross unrecognized benefits will increase or decrease within the next 12 months. The Company is subject to taxation and files income tax returns in the United States, and various state and local jurisdictions. Due to the Company's net losses, substantially all of its federal, state and local income tax returns since inception are still subject to audit.

16. Related Party Transactions

The Company's operations included the following related party transactions (in thousands):

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2016 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Cost of revenue—operating leases and incentives | \$661 | \$1,447 | \$2,677 | \$4,376 |
| Sales and marketing | 711 | 328 | 1,807 | 1,589 |
| General and administrative | 107 | 211 | 388 | 5,013 |

Vivint Services

The Company has negotiated and entered into a number of agreements with its sister company, APX Group, Inc. ("Vivint"), related to services and other support that Vivint provides to the Company. Under the terms of these agreements, Vivint primarily provides the Company with information technology and infrastructure and certain other services. The Company incurred fees under these agreements of \$0.8 million and \$1.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, which reflect the amount of services provided by Vivint on behalf of the Company. The Company incurred fees under these agreements of \$3.2 million and \$5.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

Payables to Vivint recorded in accounts payable—related party were \$0.4 million and \$1.9 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. These payables include amounts due to Vivint related to the services agreements and other miscellaneous intercompany payables.

Advances Receivable—Related Party

Net amounts due from direct-sales personnel were \$3.6 million and \$2.9 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. The Company provided a reserve of \$1.3 million and \$0.7 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015 related to advances to direct-sales personnel who have terminated their employment agreement with the Company.

Investment Funds

Fund investors for three of the investment funds are indirectly managed by the Sponsor and accordingly are considered related parties. The Company accrued equity distributions to these entities of \$1.8 million and \$1.7 million as of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, included in distributions payable to non-controlling and

redeemable non-controlling interests. See Note 12—Investment Funds. The Company also has a Backup Maintenance Servicing Agreement with Vivint in which Vivint will provide maintenance servicing of a fund in the event that the Company is removed as the service provider for the fund. No services have been performed by Vivint under this agreement. An unrelated provider has agreed to perform backup maintenance services for all other funds.

17. Commitments and Contingencies

Non-Cancellable Operating Leases

The Company has entered into operating lease agreements for corporate and operating facilities, warehouses and related equipment in states in which the Company conducts operations. The aggregate expense incurred under these operating leases was \$4.5 million and \$3.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015. The aggregate expense incurred under these operating leases was \$13.1 million and \$9.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

Build-to-Suit Lease Arrangements

In September 2014, the Company entered into a non-cancellable lease whereby the Company would terminate the current lease for its corporate headquarters in Lehi, UT and move into another building (the “New Headquarters”) that was being constructed in the same general location. Because of its involvement in certain aspects of the construction of the New Headquarters per the terms of the lease, the Company was deemed the owner of the building for accounting purposes during the construction period. Accordingly, the Company recorded a build-to-suit lease asset and corresponding build-to-suit lease liabilities during the construction period.

In May 2016, construction on the New Headquarters was completed and the Company commenced occupancy. The building qualified for sale-leaseback treatment as the Company determined the lease to be a normal leaseback, payment terms indicated the landlord has continuing investment in the property and the payment terms transferred the risks and rewards of ownership to the landlord. As such, the Company removed the build-to-suit lease asset and liabilities from its condensed consolidated balance sheet in the second quarter of 2016. The New Headquarters lease is classified and accounted for as a non-cancellable operating lease.

Letters of Credit

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company fulfilled its obligations under a forward contract to sell SRECs entered into in November 2013. As a result, the related \$1.8 million stand-by letter of credit that was outstanding at December 31, 2015 was cancelled and the corresponding time deposit was released during the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

As of September 30, 2016, the Company had established letters of credit under the Working Capital Facility for up to \$7.4 million related to insurance contracts and under the Term Loan Facility for up to \$13.0 million related to the debt service reserve for the Term Loan Facility.

Indemnification Obligations

From time to time, the Company enters into contracts that contingently require it to indemnify parties against claims. These contracts primarily relate to provisions in the Company’s services agreements with related parties that may require the Company to indemnify the related parties against services rendered; and certain agreements with the Company’s officers and directors under which the Company may be required to indemnify such persons for liabilities. In addition, under the terms of the agreements related to the Company’s investment funds and other material contracts, the Company may also be required to indemnify fund investors and other third parties for liabilities. For further information see Note 12—Investment Funds.

Legal Proceedings

In September 2014, two former installation technicians of the Company, on behalf of themselves and a purported class, filed a complaint for damages, injunctive relief and restitution in the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of San Diego against the Company and unnamed John Doe defendants. The complaint alleges certain violations of the California Labor Code and the California Business and Professions Code based on, among other things, alleged improper classification of installer technicians, installer helpers, electrician technicians and electrician helpers, failure to pay minimum and overtime wages, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, and failure to provide wages on termination. In December 2014, the original plaintiffs and three additional plaintiffs filed an amended complaint with essentially the same allegations. On November 5, 2015, the parties agreed to preliminary terms of a settlement of all claims related to allegations in the complaint in return for the Company’s payment of \$1.7 million to be paid out to the purported class members, which was accrued at that time. The Court

gave final approval to the settlement on September 30, 2016. On October 7, 2016, the Company made payment of the \$1.7 million gross settlement fund to the settlement claim administrator.

In November and December 2014, two putative class action lawsuits were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York against the Company, its directors, certain of its officers and the underwriters of the Company's initial public offering of common stock alleging violation of securities laws and seeking unspecified damages. In January 2015, the Court ordered these cases to be consolidated into the earlier filed case, *Hyatt v. Vivint Solar, Inc. et al.*, 14-cv-9283 (KBF). The plaintiffs filed a consolidated amended complaint in February 2015. On May 6, 2015, the Company filed a motion to dismiss the complaint and on December 10, 2015, the Court issued an Opinion and Order dismissing the complaint with prejudice. On January 5, 2016, the plaintiffs filed a Notice of Appeal to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. On August 25, 2016, the Court of Appeals heard oral arguments on the appeal. The Company is unable to estimate a range of loss, if any, that could result were there to be an adverse final decision. If an unfavorable outcome were to occur in this case, it is possible that the impact could be material to the Company's results of operations in the period(s) in which any such outcome becomes probable and estimable.

On September 9, 2015, two of the Company's customers, on behalf of themselves and a purported class, named the Company in a putative class action, Case No. BCV-15-100925(Cal. Super. Ct., Kern County), alleging violation of California Business and Professional Code Section 17200 and requesting relief pursuant to Section 1689 of the California Civil Code. The complaint seeks: (1) rescission of their power purchase agreements along with restitution to the plaintiffs individually and (2) declaratory and injunctive relief. On October 16, 2015, the Company moved to compel arbitration of the plaintiffs' claims pursuant to the provisions set forth in the power purchase agreements, which the Court granted and dismissed the class claims without prejudice. Plaintiffs have appealed the Court's order. It is not possible to estimate the amount or range of potential loss, if any, at this time.

On March 8, 2016, the Company filed suit in the Court of Chancery State of Delaware against SunEdison and SEV Merger Sub Inc. alleging that SunEdison willfully breached its obligations under the Merger Agreement pursuant to which the Company was to be acquired and breached its implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The Company is seeking declaratory judgment, award damages, costs and reasonable attorney's fees and such further relief that the court finds equitable, appropriate and just. On April 21, 2016, SunEdison filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, thereby creating a temporary stay on the prosecution of the Company's litigation in the Delaware court. On July 7, 2016, the Company filed a motion with the bankruptcy court seeking to lift the stay and allow the Company to litigate its claim against SunEdison. On September 13, 2016, the bankruptcy court denied the Company's motion to lift the stay, effectively requiring that the Company's claim be litigated in the bankruptcy proceeding. On September 22, 2016, the Company submitted a proof of claim in the bankruptcy case for an unsecured claim in the amount of \$1.0 billion. The Company is participating in the bankruptcy case so as to maximize the recovery from the claims against SunEdison.

In March 2016, a civil complaint was filed against the Company alleging negligence and related claims arising from damage to a customer's residence. In June 2016, the Company reached agreement between the Company, the plaintiffs and the Company's liability insurance provider to participate in an arbitration proceeding that will determine the extent of the damages – with a minimum amount set at \$1.0 million and a maximum amount set at \$3.0 million. Based on the above agreement, a \$1.0 million reserve was recorded related to this matter in the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements. The arbitration hearing was held in September 2016, but the arbitrator has not yet issued a decision. The Company anticipates that the entirety of any damage award will be satisfied by its liability insurance provider and a related \$1.0 million receivable was recorded in its condensed consolidated financial statements.

In addition to the matters discussed above, in the normal course of business, the Company has from time to time been named as a party to various legal claims, actions and complaints. While the outcome of these matters cannot be predicted with certainty, the Company does not currently believe that the outcome of any of these claims will have a material adverse effect, individually or in the aggregate, on its condensed consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

The Company accrues for losses that are probable and can be reasonably estimated. The Company evaluates the adequacy of its legal reserves based on its assessment of many factors, including interpretations of the law and assumptions about the future outcome of each case based on available information.

18. Basic and Diluted Net Income (Loss) Per Share

The following table sets forth the computation of the Company's basic and diluted net income available (loss attributable) per share to common stockholders for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015 (in thousands, except per share amounts):

| | Three Months Ended September 30, 2016 | | Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015 | |
|---|---|---------|--|----------|
| Numerator: | | | | |
| Net income available (loss attributable) to common | | | | |
| stockholders | \$16,696 | \$468 | \$(2,152) | \$26,270 |
| Denominator: | | | | |
| Shares used in computing net income available | | | | |
| (loss attributable) per share to common stockholders, basic | 108,692 | 106,492 | 107,516 | 105,932 |
| Weighted-average effect of potentially dilutive shares to | | | | |
| purchase common stock | 4,652 | 3,731 | — | 3,762 |
| Shares used in computing net income available | | | | |
| (loss attributable) per share to common stockholders, diluted | 113,344 | 110,223 | 107,516 | 109,694 |
| Net income available (loss attributable) per share to common | | | | |
| stockholders: | | | | |
| Basic | \$0.15 | \$0.00 | \$(0.02) | \$0.25 |
| Diluted | \$0.15 | \$0.00 | \$(0.02) | \$0.24 |

In May 2016, the Company modified the unvested performance stock options to vest annually over three years with the first vesting date occurring in May 2017. See Note 14—Equity Compensation Plans. As such, all stock options were considered in the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share on a weighted-average basis as of September 30, 2016. For the three months ended September 30, 2016, 0.3 million shares were excluded from the dilutive share calculations as the effect on net income per share would have been anti-dilutive. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company incurred a net loss attributable to common stockholders. As such, the potentially dilutive shares were anti-dilutive and were not considered in the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, a de minimis number of shares were excluded from the dilutive share calculations as the effect on net income per share would have been anti-dilutive.

As of September 30, 2015, stock-based awards for 3.4 million underlying shares of common stock were subject to performance conditions that had not yet been met. Accordingly, these performance-based stock awards were not included in the computation of diluted net income per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. In addition, awards remaining to be granted under the LTIP Pools were not included in the computation of diluted net income per share as these shares had not been granted as of September 30, 2016 and 2015.

19. Segment Information

From the second quarter of 2015 through the second quarter of 2016, the Company had aligned its operations as two reporting segments, (1) Residential and (2) C&I, as the result of entering into a C&I investment fund with plans to service customers in the C&I market. During that time, no projects were initiated within the fund and no revenue was recorded in the C&I segment. In June 2016, the Company ended its C&I investment fund and settled with a \$1.0 million termination fee. As a result of this termination, the Company realigned and consolidated its reporting segments as the Residential segment, which is now the Company's only reporting segment. No restatement of prior periods is necessary, as the restated prior periods are the previously disclosed condensed consolidated statements of operations for quarterly reporting.

Operating expenses in the C&I segment included sales and marketing and general and administrative. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, sales and marketing expense was \$0.3 million. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, general and administrative expense was \$1.5 million. The Company did not have any assets or liabilities associated with the C&I fund. For additional information regarding the termination of the C&I investment fund, see Note 12—Investment Funds.

20. Subsequent Events

Investment Funds

In November 2016, two wholly owned subsidiaries of the Company entered into separate solar investment fund arrangements with existing fund investors. The commitments under the investment fund arrangements total \$100.0 million. The Company's wholly owned subsidiaries have the right to elect to require the fund investors to sell all of their membership units to the Company's wholly owned subsidiaries beginning on the date that certain conditions are met. The purchase prices for the fund investors' interests are determined based on the fair market values of those interests at the time the options are exercised. The Company has not yet completed its assessment of whether the investment fund arrangements are VIEs.

In November 2016, the Company also entered into a commitment letter with an existing fund investor for an additional \$100.0 million fund arrangement. The fund investor's obligations under the commitment letter are subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions. If the commitment is consummated, the Company will assess whether the investment fund arrangement is a VIE.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Forward-Looking Statements

This section should be read in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes included in Part 1, Item 1 of this report. This discussion contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements are identified by words such as “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “will,” “may,” “seek” and other similar expressions. You should read these statements carefully because they discuss future expectations, contain projections of future results of operations or financial condition or state other “forward-looking” information. These statements relate to our future plans, objectives, expectations, intentions and financial performance and the assumptions that underlie these statements.

These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- federal, state and local regulations and policies governing the electric utility industry;
- the regulatory regime for our offerings and for third-party owned solar energy systems;
- technical limitations imposed by operators of the power grid;
- the continuation of tax rebates, credits and incentives, including changes to the rates of the income tax credit, or ITC, beginning in 2020;
- the price of utility-generated electricity and electricity from other sources;
- our ability to finance the installation of solar energy systems;
- our ability to efficiently install and interconnect solar energy systems to the power grid;
- our ability to sustain and manage growth while reducing and managing costs;
- our ability to further penetrate existing markets and expand into new markets;
- our ability to develop new product offerings and distribution channels;
- our relationship with our sister company APX Group, Inc., or Vivint, and The Blackstone Group L.P., our sponsor;
- our ability to manage our supply chain;
- the cost of solar panels and the residual value of solar panels after the expiration of our customer contracts;
- the course and outcome of litigation and other disputes;
- our ability to maintain our brand and protect our intellectual property; and
- our expectation regarding remediation of the material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting.

In combination with the risk factors we have identified, we cannot assure you that the forward-looking statements in this report will prove to be accurate. Further, if our forward-looking statements prove to be inaccurate, the inaccuracy may be material. In light of the significant uncertainties in these forward-looking statements, you should not regard these statements as a representation or warranty by us or any other person that we will achieve our objectives and plans in any specified time frame, or at all, or as predictions of future events. Moreover, neither we nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.

Overview

We primarily offer distributed solar energy to residential customers based on long-term contracts at prices below their current utility rates. Our customer focus, neighborhood-driven direct-to-home sales model, brand and operational efficiency have driven our growth in solar energy installations. We believe we are disrupting the traditional electricity market by satisfying customers' demand for increased energy independence and less expensive, more socially responsible electricity generation.

We sell the electricity that our solar energy systems produce through long-term power purchase agreements (“PPAs”) or lease solar energy systems through long-term leases (“Solar Leases”). We also offer our customers the option to purchase solar energy systems through a third-party loan offering or cash purchase, which we anticipate becoming an increasingly significant portion of our business. Under either PPA or Solar Lease customer contracts, we install our solar energy system at our customer’s home and bill the customer monthly. Since the second quarter of 2016, we have been more selective in our installation policies to increase incremental value by limiting the installation of smaller system sizes and limiting installations on certain roof types. We continue to review installation policies as our processes become more efficient and power rates increase. In the PPA structure, we charge customers a fee per kilowatt hour based on the amount of electricity the solar energy system actually produces. In the Solar Lease structure, the customer’s monthly payment is fixed based on a calculation that takes into account expected solar energy generation. We provide our Solar Lease customers a performance guarantee, under which we agree to make a payment at the end of each year to the customer if the solar energy system does not meet the guaranteed production level in the prior 12-month period. The PPA and Solar Lease terms are typically for 20 years, and virtually all the prices that we charge to our customers are subject to pre-determined annual fixed percentage price escalations as specified in the customer contract. We do not believe that either PPA or Solar Lease contracts are materially more advantageous to us than the other.

We primarily compete with traditional utilities with our PPAs and Solar Leases. In the markets we serve, our strategy is to price the energy we sell below prevailing retail electricity rates. As a result, the price our customers pay to buy energy from us varies depending on the state where the customer is located and the local traditional utility. In markets that are also served by other distributed solar energy system providers, the price we charge also depends on customer price sensitivity, the need to offer a compelling financial benefit and the price other solar energy companies charge in the region. Since the second quarter of 2016, we have also changed our pricing in certain markets to maximize returns on investment. We primarily compete with other distributed solar energy system providers for systems we sell to customers, on the basis of price, service and availability of financing options. We continue to evaluate our pricing in all markets on a quarterly basis and make adjustments to optimize our use of capital based on market conditions and utility rates. In addition, we are working on developing a joint lead generation program with our sister company Vivint with the goal of driving additional growth.

Our ability to offer long-term customer contracts depends in part on our ability to finance the installation of the solar energy systems by co-investing or entering into lease arrangements with fund investors who value the resulting customer receivables and investment tax credits, accelerated tax depreciation and other incentives related to the solar energy systems through structured investments known as “tax equity.” As of October 31, 2016, we had raised 17 residential investment funds to which investors such as banks and other large financial investors have committed to invest approximately \$1.1 billion, which will enable us to install solar energy systems of total fair market value approximating \$2.8 billion. As of October 31, 2016, we had residential tax equity commitments to fund approximately 4 megawatts of future deployments, which we estimate to be sufficient to fund solar energy systems with a total fair market value of approximately \$15 million. The terms and conditions of each investment fund vary significantly by investor and by fund. We continue to negotiate with financial investors to create additional investment funds. For additional information, see “—Recent Developments.” Given our tax equity pipeline during the third quarter of 2016, we financed a greater portion of our solar energy systems with debt. Although we have secured commitments for additional tax equity, the timing of such financing impacted our activities in the third quarter. As a result, we expect megawatts installed in the fourth quarter of 2016 and potential early 2017 will be adversely affected.

Our investment funds have adopted the partnership flip, inverted lease or lease pass-through structures. Our partnership flip and inverted lease investment funds are considered variable interest entities, and we have determined that we are the primary beneficiary of them for accounting purposes. Accordingly, we consolidate the assets and liabilities and operating results of these entities in our condensed consolidated financial statements. We recognize the fund investors’ share of the net assets of the investment funds as non-controlling interests and redeemable

non-controlling interests in our condensed consolidated balance sheets. These income or loss allocations, reflected on our condensed consolidated statement of operations, may create significant volatility in our reported results of operations, including potentially changing net income available (loss attributable) to common stockholders from income to loss, or vice versa, from quarter to quarter. Our lease pass-through structure is a wholly owned subsidiary and therefore is consolidated in our condensed consolidated financial statements with no non-controlling interest or redeemable non-controlling interest impact.

On July 20, 2015, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, or the Merger Agreement, with SunEdison, Inc., or SunEdison, a Delaware corporation, and SEV Merger Sub, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of SunEdison. The Merger Agreement was subsequently amended on December 9, 2015 to update the terms of the merger. We terminated the Merger Agreement on March 7, 2016. On March 8, 2016, we filed suit against SunEdison alleging that SunEdison willfully breached its obligations under the Merger Agreement and breached its implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. SunEdison filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in April 2016. On September 13, 2016, the bankruptcy court required that our claim be litigated in the bankruptcy proceeding. See the section captioned “Item 1. Legal Proceedings.”

Recent Developments

Investment Funds

In November 2016, two of our wholly owned subsidiaries entered into separate solar investment fund arrangements with existing fund investors. The commitments under the investment fund arrangements total \$100.0 million. Our wholly owned subsidiaries have the right to elect to require the fund investors to sell all of their membership units to our wholly owned subsidiaries beginning on the date that certain conditions are met. The purchase prices for the fund investors' interests are determined based on the fair market values of those interests at the time the options are exercised. We have not yet completed our assessment of whether the investment fund arrangements are variable interest entities, or VIEs.

In November 2016, we also entered into a commitment letter with an existing fund investor for an additional \$100.0 million fund arrangement. The fund investor's obligations under the commitment letter are subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions. If the commitment is consummated, we will assess whether the investment fund arrangement is a VIE.

Key Operating Metrics

We regularly review a number of metrics, including the following key operating metrics, to evaluate our business, measure our performance, identify trends affecting our business, formulate financial projections and make strategic decisions. Some of our key operating metrics are estimates. These estimates are based on our management's beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to management. Although we believe that we have a reasonable basis for each of these estimates, these estimates are based on a combination of assumptions that may not prove to be accurate over time, particularly given that a number of them involve estimates of cash flows up to 30 years in the future. Underperformance of the solar energy systems, payment defaults by our customers, cancellation of signed contracts, competition from other distributed solar energy companies, development in the distributed solar energy market and the energy market more broadly, technical innovation or other factors described under the section of this report captioned "Risk Factors" could cause our actual results to differ materially from our calculations. Furthermore, while we believe we have calculated these key metrics in a manner consistent with those used by others in our industry, other companies may in fact calculate these metrics differently than we do now or in the future, which would reduce their usefulness as a comparative measure.

Solar energy system installations. Solar energy system installations represents the number of solar energy systems installed on customers' premises. Cumulative solar energy system installations represents the aggregate number of solar energy systems that have been installed on customers' premises. We track the number of solar energy system installations as of the end of a given period as an indicator of our historical growth and as an indicator of our rate of growth from period to period.

Megawatts installed. Megawatts installed represents the aggregate megawatt nameplate capacity of solar energy systems for which panels, inverters, and mounting and racking hardware have been installed on customer premises in the period. Cumulative megawatts installed represents the aggregate megawatt nameplate capacity of solar energy systems for which panels, inverters, and mounting and racking hardware have been installed on customer premises.

Estimated nominal contracted payments remaining. Estimated nominal contracted payments remaining equals the sum of the remaining cash payments that our customers are expected to pay over the term of their agreements with us for systems installed as of the measurement date. For a power purchase agreement, we multiply the contract price per

kilowatt-hour by the estimated annual energy output of the associated solar energy system to determine the estimated nominal contracted payments. For a customer lease, we include the monthly fees and upfront fee, if any, as set forth in the lease.

Estimated retained value. Estimated retained value represents the net cash flows discounted at 6% that we expect to receive from customers pursuant to long-term customer contracts net of estimated cash distributions to fund investors and estimated operating expenses for systems installed as of the measurement date.

Estimated retained value under energy contracts. Estimated retained value under energy contracts represents the estimated retained value from the solar energy systems during the typical 20-year term of our contracts.

Estimated retained value of renewal. Estimated retained value of renewal represents the estimated retained value associated with an assumed 10-year renewal term following the expiration of the initial contract term. To calculate estimated retained value of renewal, we assume all contracts are renewed at 90% of the contractual price in effect at the expiration of the initial term.

Estimated retained value per watt. Estimated retained value per watt is calculated by dividing the estimated retained value as of the measurement date by the aggregate nameplate capacity of solar energy systems under long-term customer contracts that have been installed as of such date, and is subject to the same assumptions and uncertainties as estimated retained value.

| | Three Months Ended | | Nine Months | |
|---|--------------------|------------|---------------|--------|
| | September 30, | | Ended | |
| | 2016 | 2015 | September 30, | 2015 |
| Solar energy system installations | 8,266 | 8,658 | 24,611 | 24,396 |
| Megawatts installed | 58.8 | 60.5 | 175.1 | 172.2 |
| | September 30, | | December 31, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 | | |
| Cumulative solar energy system installations | 93,138 | 68,527 | | |
| Cumulative megawatts installed | 634.0 | 458.9 | | |
| Estimated nominal contracted payments remaining (in millions) | \$2,432.2 | \$ 1,871.9 | | |
| Estimated retained value under energy contracts (in millions) | \$948.3 | \$ 705.6 | | |
| Estimated retained value of renewal (in millions) | \$280.0 | \$ 200.5 | | |
| Estimated retained value (in millions) | \$1,228.3 | \$ 906.1 | | |
| Estimated retained value per watt | \$1.96 | \$ 1.98 | | |

Seasonality

We experience seasonal fluctuations in our operations. For example, the amount of revenue we recognize in a given period from power purchase agreements is dependent in part on the amount of energy generated by solar energy systems under such contracts. As a result, operating leases and incentives revenue is impacted by seasonally shorter daylight hours in winter months. In addition, our ability to install solar energy systems is impacted by weather. For example, we have limited ability to install solar energy systems during the winter months in the Northeastern United States. Such delays can impact the timing of when we can install and begin to generate revenue from solar energy systems. However, the true extent of these fluctuations may have been masked by our historical growth rates and thus may not be readily apparent from our historical operating results and may be difficult to predict. As such, our historical operating results may not be indicative of future performance.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based on our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or GAAP. GAAP require us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, expenses, cash flows and related footnote disclosures. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates. Our future condensed consolidated financial statements will be affected to the extent that our actual results materially differ from these estimates.

We believe that the assumptions and estimates associated with our principles of consolidation; investment tax credits; revenue recognition; solar energy systems, net; impairment analysis of long-lived assets; goodwill impairment analysis; the recognition and measurement of loss contingencies; stock-based compensation; provision for income taxes; and non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests have the greatest potential impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements. Therefore, we consider these to be our critical accounting policies and estimates.

Prior to the three months ended September 30, 2016, we had no comprehensive income or loss. For the three months ended September 30, 2016, other comprehensive income (loss) included an unrealized gain on a derivative financial instrument designated as a cash flow hedge. The cash flow hedge relates to an interest rate swap that we entered into in order to reduce interest rate risk as required by one of our debt agreements. Changes in fair value for the effective

portion of this cash flow hedge are recorded in other comprehensive income and will subsequently be reclassified to interest expense over the life of the related debt facilities as interest payments are made. Changes in fair value for the ineffective portion of the cash flow hedge are recognized in other (income) expense. See Note 10—Debt Obligations and Note 11—Derivative Financial Instruments.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we had a change in estimate regarding the carrying value of our goodwill. In conjunction with the acquisition by SunEdison failing to occur, our market capitalization decreased significantly during the first quarter of 2016 from \$1.0 billion as of December 31, 2015 to \$283 million as of March 31, 2016. We considered this significant decrease in market capitalization to be an indicator of impairment, and we performed a test for potential impairment as of March 31, 2016. The completion of the impairment test resulted in the determination that our goodwill balance of \$36.6 million was fully impaired. See Note 7—Intangible Assets and Goodwill.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we consolidated our reporting segments as the Residential segment, which is now our only reporting segment. See Note 19—Segment Information.

Components of Results of Operations

Revenue

We classify and account for long-term customer contracts as operating leases. We consider the proceeds from solar energy system rebate incentives offered by certain state and local governments to form part of the payments under our operating leases and recognize such payments as revenue over the contract term. We record revenue from our operating leases over the term of our long-term customer contracts, which is typically 20 years. We also apply for and receive solar renewable energy certificates, or SRECs, in certain jurisdictions for power generated by our solar energy systems. We generally recognize revenue related to the sale of SRECs upon delivery. The market for SRECs is extremely volatile and sellers are often able to obtain better unit pricing by selling a large quantity of SRECs. As a result, we may sell SRECs infrequently, at opportune times and in large quantities, which may lead to fluctuations in our quarterly results. Less than 1% of our revenue was attributable to state and local rebates and incentives in all periods presented.

We recognize revenue related to the sale of solar energy systems to customers when interconnected to the power grid. We also recognize revenue related to the sale of photovoltaic installation devices and software products, a portion of which consists of post-contract customer support. In the second quarter of 2016, we resumed external sales of the SunEye product, which sales had previously been discontinued in the first quarter of 2015.

The following table sets forth our revenue by major product (in thousands):

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|---|--|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Operating leases and other incentives | \$28,490 | \$16,225 | \$66,576 | \$36,849 |
| SREC sales | 4,904 | 5,556 | 13,457 | 8,813 |
| Total operating leases and incentives | 33,394 | 21,781 | 80,033 | 45,662 |
| Solar energy system sales | 7,228 | 307 | 11,873 | 608 |
| Photovoltaic installation devices and software products | 640 | 386 | 1,490 | 1,884 |
| Total solar energy system and product sales | 7,868 | 693 | 13,363 | 2,492 |
| Total revenue | \$41,262 | \$22,474 | \$93,396 | \$48,154 |

Operating Expenses

Cost of Revenue. Cost of operating leases and incentives is comprised of solar energy system depreciation and amortization of initial direct costs; and indirect costs related to the processing, account creation, design, installation, interconnection and servicing of solar energy systems, including personnel costs not directly associated to a solar energy system installation, stock-based compensation, warehouse rent, utilities, fleet vehicle executory costs and solar energy system inventory write-offs. Under our direct sales model, a vast majority of payments to our direct sales personnel are customer acquisition commissions, which are capitalized as initial direct costs. The cost related to the sales of SRECs is limited to broker fees, which are only paid in connection with certain transactions. Accordingly, the sale of SRECs in a quarter favorably impacts our operating results for that period. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect our cost of operating leases and incentives revenue will increase in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter of 2016 primarily due to additional solar energy systems being placed in service.

Cost of solar energy system and product sales consists of material costs, direct labor costs and allocated indirect costs for solar energy systems sold to customers. It also consists of materials, personnel costs, depreciation, facilities costs, other overhead costs and infrastructure expenses associated with the manufacturing of photovoltaic installation devices and software products. We recognize the cost of solar energy system sales as the solar energy systems sold to customers are interconnected to the power grid and other revenue recognition criteria are met. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect our cost of solar energy system and product sales will increase in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter of 2016 as we continue to increase the sales of solar energy systems.

Sales and Marketing Expenses. Sales and marketing expenses include personnel costs, such as salaries, benefits, bonuses and stock-based compensation for our corporate sales and marketing employees and exclude costs related to our direct sales personnel that are accounted for as cost of revenue. Sales and marketing expenses also include advertising, promotional and other marketing-related expenses; certain allocated corporate overhead costs related to facilities and information technology; travel; professional services and costs related to customer cancellations. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect sales and marketing costs will increase in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter of 2016.

Research and Development. Research and development expense is comprised primarily of the salaries, benefits and stock-based compensation of certain employees and the development of solar technologies. In prior periods, these expenses included costs related to the development of photovoltaic software products. Research and development costs are charged to expense when incurred. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect research and development costs will remain consistent in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses include personnel costs, such as salaries, bonuses and stock-based compensation related to our general and administrative personnel; professional fees related to legal, human resources, accounting and structured finance services; travel; and allocated facilities and information technology costs. Our financial results include charges for the use of services provided by Vivint. These costs are based on the actual cost incurred by Vivint without mark-up. The charges to us may not be representative of what the costs would have been had we operated separately from Vivint during the periods presented. We continue to use information and technology resources and systems administered by Vivint. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect that general and administrative expenses will increase in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter of 2016 due in part to increased professional service fees related to the initiation of tax equity investment funds.

Amortization of Intangible Assets. We have recorded intangible assets at their fair value related to acquisitions in which we have been involved and at cost for internally developed software projects. Such intangible assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect amortization of intangible assets to decrease in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter of 2016.

Impairment of Goodwill and Intangible Assets. In conjunction with the acquisition by SunEdison failing to occur, our market capitalization decreased significantly during the first quarter of 2016, from \$1.0 billion as of December 31, 2015 to \$283.0 million as of March 31, 2016. We considered this significant decrease in market capitalization to be an indicator of goodwill impairment, and we performed a test for potential impairment as of March 31, 2016. The completion of the impairment test resulted in the determination that our goodwill balance of \$36.6 million was fully impaired. See Note 7—Intangible Assets and Goodwill.

During 2015, we discontinued the external sale of two Vivint Solar Labs products. This discontinuance was considered an indicator of impairment, and we performed a review regarding the recoverability of the carrying value of the related intangible assets. As a result of this review, we recorded an impairment charge of \$4.5 million in the first quarter of 2015.

Non-Operating Expenses

Interest Expense. Interest expense primarily consists of interest charges associated with our indebtedness, including the amortization of debt issuance costs and the interest components of the lease pass-through financing obligation and capital lease obligations. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we expect our interest expense to increase in absolute dollars compared to the third quarter of 2016 as we have incurred additional indebtedness. Additionally, our debt facilities accrue interest at floating rates and increases in the floating rates would result in higher interest expense.

Other (Income) Expense. Other (income) expense includes changes in fair value for the ineffective portion of our cash flow hedge and has included interest and penalties associated with tax payments that were not paid in a timely manner.

Income Tax Expense. All of our business is conducted in the United States, and therefore income tax expense consists of current and deferred income taxes incurred in U.S federal, state and local jurisdictions.

Net Income Available to Common Stockholders

We determine the net income available to common stockholders by deducting from net loss the net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests. The net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests represents the investment fund investors' allocable share in the results of operations of the investment funds that we consolidate. Generally, gains and losses that are allocated to the fund investors under the hypothetical liquidation at book value, or HLBV, method relate to hypothetical liquidation gains and losses resulting from differences between the net assets of the investment fund and the partners' respective tax capital accounts in the investment fund. As of September 30, 2016, we had one operational investment fund that did not utilize the HLBV method to allocate gains and losses as we own 100% of the equity of that fund and there is no non-controlling interest attributable to a fund investor.

Results of Operations

The results of operations presented below should be reviewed in conjunction with the condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this report.

The following table sets forth selected condensed consolidated statements of operations data for each of the periods indicated.

| | Three Months Ended September 30, | | Nine Months Ended September 30, | |
|--|--|----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | | (In thousands) | |
| Revenue: | | | | |
| Operating leases and incentives | \$33,394 | \$21,781 | \$80,033 | \$45,662 |
| Solar energy system and product sales | 7,868 | 693 | 13,363 | 2,492 |
| Total revenue | 41,262 | 22,474 | 93,396 | 48,154 |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Cost of revenue—operating leases and incentives | 39,268 | 37,624 | 115,566 | 94,799 |
| Cost of revenue—solar energy system and product sales | 6,468 | 470 | 10,606 | 1,384 |
| Sales and marketing | 8,617 | 12,051 | 32,078 | 37,181 |
| Research and development | 842 | 1,047 | 2,218 | 2,549 |
| General and administrative | 19,022 | 21,954 | 60,006 | 71,948 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 342 | 3,711 | 762 | 11,195 |
| Impairment of goodwill and intangible assets | — | — | 36,601 | 4,506 |
| Total operating expenses | 74,559 | 76,857 | 257,837 | 223,562 |
| Loss from operations | (33,297) | (54,383) | (164,441) | (175,408) |
| Interest expense | 9,361 | 3,351 | 22,539 | 8,208 |
| Other (income) expense | (434) | 26 | (95) | 399 |
| Loss before income taxes | (42,224) | (57,760) | (186,885) | (184,015) |
| Income tax (benefit) expense | (2,959) | (7,448) | 10,245 | 15,977 |
| Net loss | (39,265) | (50,312) | (197,130) | (199,992) |
| Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests | (55,961) | (50,780) | (194,978) | (226,262) |
| Net income available (loss attributable) to common stockholders | \$16,696 | \$468 | \$(2,152) | \$26,270 |

Comparison of Three Months Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

Revenue

Three Months
Ended
September 30,

| | | | \$ |
|---------------|----------------|----------|----------|
| | | | Change |
| | | | 2016 |
| | | | from |
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | | |
| Total revenue | \$41,262 | \$22,474 | \$18,788 |

The \$18.8 million increase was primarily due to a \$10.7 million increase in operating lease revenue as the total megawatts of solar energy systems placed in service increased 76%. In addition, revenue increased \$6.9 million primarily as a result of our emphasis on solar energy system sales, and revenue related to our lease pass-through fund arrangement increased \$1.5 million as deferred ITC revenue was recognized. See Note 12—Investment Funds, “Lease Pass-Through Financing Obligation.” These increases were partially offset by a \$0.7 million decrease in SREC sales.

Operating Expenses

| | Three Months Ended | | \$ Change 2016 from 2015 |
|---|-----------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| | September 30, | | |
| | 2016 | 2015 | |
| | (In thousands) | | |
| Operating expenses: | | | |
| Cost of revenue—operating leases and incentives | \$39,268 | \$37,624 | \$1,644 |
| Cost of revenue—solar energy system and product sales | 6,468 | 470 | 5,998 |
| Sales and marketing | 8,617 | 12,051 | (3,434) |
| Research and development | 842 | 1,047 | (205) |
| General and administrative | 19,022 | 21,954 | (2,932) |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 342 | 3,711 | (3,369) |
| Total operating expenses | \$74,559 | \$76,857 | \$(2,298) |

Cost of Revenue—operating leases and incentives. The \$1.6 million increase was primarily due to a \$4.8 million increase in depreciation and amortization of solar energy systems and a \$2.7 million increase in system portfolio maintenance costs due to the increase in the number of solar energy systems placed in service. Warehouse, office and building costs increased \$0.9 million due to a 10% increase in warehouses in operation. These increases were partially offset by a \$6.0 million decrease in compensation and benefits due to a 16% decrease in average installation and operations employee headcount and increased efficiencies in our installation processes, and a \$0.9 million decrease in vehicle fleet costs.

Cost of Revenue—solar energy system and product sales. The \$6.0 million increase was primarily due to a \$5.9 million increase in the cost of system sales due to the higher volume of solar energy systems sold.

Sales and Marketing Expense. The \$3.4 million decrease was primarily due to a \$2.1 million decrease in compensation and benefits resulting from a 48% decrease in average indirect sales support and marketing employee headcount due to organizational changes as well as a \$1.1 million decrease in marketing and brand awareness activities.

General and Administrative Expense. The \$2.9 million decrease was primarily due to a \$4.0 million decrease in legal and other costs related to the failed acquisition by SunEdison and a \$2.3 million decrease in professional fees due to lower legal fees and decreased reliance on information technology services provided by Vivint. These decreases were partially offset by a \$2.0 million increase in compensation and benefits primarily related to corporate bonuses, a \$0.5 million increase in fixed asset depreciation, a \$0.5 million increase in property taxes and a \$0.4 million increase in stock-based compensation.

Amortization of Intangible Assets. The \$3.4 million decrease was primarily due to our customer contracts intangible asset that was fully amortized in 2015.

Non-Operating Expenses

| | Three Months Ended | | \$ |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------|----------------------|
| | September 30, | | Change |
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 from 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | | |
| Interest expense | \$9,361 | \$3,351 | \$ 6,010 |
| Other (income) expense | (434) | 26 | (460) |

Interest Expense. Interest expense increased \$6.0 million primarily due to the cost of financing additional borrowings year over year.

Other (Income) Expense. The \$0.5 million change from other expense to other income was primarily due to \$0.3 million of gain related to the ineffective portion of our cash flow hedge and a \$0.2 million decrease in the accrual for tax-related interest and penalties due to an abatement of a portion of prior period tax penalties.

Income Taxes

| Three Months Ended | | \$ Change 2016 from 2015 |
|--------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| September 30, | | |
| 2016 | 2015 | |

(In thousands)

Income tax benefit \$(2,959) \$(7,448) \$ 4,489

The \$4.5 million decrease in income tax benefit was primarily attributable to a reduced loss before income taxes and the net effect of non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests, federal investment tax credits, amortization of the prepaid tax asset and the domestic production activities deduction.

Net Loss Attributable to Non-Controlling Interests and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interests

| Three Months Ended | | \$ Change 2016 from 2015 |
|--------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| September 30, | | |
| 2016 | 2015 | |

(In thousands)

Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable

non-controlling interests \$(55,961) \$(50,780) \$(5,181)

Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests was allocated using the HLBV method. Generally, gains and losses that are allocated to the fund investors relate to hypothetical liquidation gains and losses resulting from differences between the net assets of the investment fund and the partners' respective tax capital accounts in the investment fund. Losses allocated to the fund investors are generally derived from the receipt of ITCs and tax depreciation under Internal Revenue Code Section 168(k). These tax benefits are primarily allocated to the investors and reduce the fund investors' tax capital account.

Comparison of Nine Months Ended September 30, 2016 and 2015

Revenue

| Nine Months Ended | | \$ Change 2016 from 2015 |
|-------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| September 30, | | |
| 2016 | 2015 | |

(In thousands)

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Total revenue \$93,396 \$48,154 \$45,242

The \$45.2 million increase was primarily due to a \$28.1 million increase in operating lease revenue as the total megawatts of solar energy systems placed in service increased 76%. In addition, revenue increased \$11.3 million primarily as a result of our emphasis on solar energy system sales, SREC sales increased \$4.6 million primarily driven by the increased solar energy systems placed in service and revenue related to our lease pass-through fund arrangement increased \$1.5 million as deferred ITC revenue was recognized. See Note 12—Investment Funds, “Lease Pass-Through Financing Obligation.” These increases were partially offset by a \$0.4 million decrease in photovoltaic device and software products revenue.

Operating Expenses

| | Nine Months Ended | | \$ Change 2016 from 2015 |
|---|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| | September 30, 2016 | 2015 | |
| | (In thousands) | | |
| Operating expenses: | | | |
| Cost of revenue—operating leases and incentives | \$ 115,566 | \$ 94,799 | \$ 20,767 |
| Cost of revenue—solar energy system and product sales | 10,606 | 1,384 | 9,222 |
| Sales and marketing | 32,078 | 37,181 | (5,103) |
| Research and development | 2,218 | 2,549 | (331) |
| General and administrative | 60,006 | 71,948 | (11,942) |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 762 | 11,195 | (10,433) |
| Impairment of goodwill and intangible assets | 36,601 | 4,506 | 32,095 |
| Total operating expenses | \$ 257,837 | \$ 223,562 | \$ 34,275 |

Cost of Revenue—operating leases and incentives. The \$20.8 million increase was primarily due to a \$14.1 million increase in depreciation and amortization of solar energy systems primarily due to the increase in the number of solar energy systems placed in service. Warehouse, office and other installation costs increased \$6.5 million due to a 10% increase in warehouses in operation. Solar energy system portfolio maintenance costs increased by \$5.4 million due to the increase in the number of solar energy systems placed in service. These increases were partially offset by a \$2.3 million decrease in compensation and benefits due to increased efficiencies in our installation processes, a \$2.1 million decrease in vehicle fleet costs and a \$0.9 million decrease in stock-based compensation primarily due to performance options that vested in 2015.

Cost of Revenue—solar energy system and product sales. The \$9.2 million increase was primarily due to a \$9.4 million increase in the cost of system sales due to the higher volume of solar energy systems sold in 2016. The increase was partially offset by decreased costs of photovoltaic device and software product sales in line with the related revenue.

Sales and Marketing Expense. The \$5.1 million decrease was primarily due to a \$7.6 million decrease in stock-based compensation. Stock-based compensation expense in 2015 was driven higher primarily due to the grant and vesting of shares issued to sales personnel under the Long-Term Incentive Plan, or LTIP, and the vesting of options due to a performance condition being met. Total stock-based compensation expense is adjusted for the majority of sales and marketing participants based on our stock price, which declined significantly from September 30, 2015 to September 30, 2016. These decreases were partially offset by a \$1.4 million increase in sales administrative costs and a \$0.9 million increase in costs associated with marketing and brand awareness activities.

Research and Development Expense. The \$0.3 million decrease was primarily due to a \$0.9 million decrease in stock-based compensation primarily driven by the forfeiture of unvested stock options for employees who left our company in second quarter of 2016. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in compensation and benefits of \$0.5 million primarily due to a 30% increase in average research and development headcount.

General and Administrative Expense. The \$11.9 million decrease was primarily due to an \$8.3 million decrease in stock-based compensation primarily due to performance options that vested in 2015 and the forfeiture of unvested stock options for executives who left the company in the nine months ended September 30, 2016. Additionally, professional fees related to initiating and servicing tax equity investment funds decreased by \$7.6 million as fewer funds were closed in 2016. Other professional fees decreased by \$3.6 million primarily due to lower legal fees and decreased costs incurred for reliance on information technology services provided by Vivint. These decreases were partially offset by \$2.2 million in costs primarily related to severance for senior management who left the company and other organizational changes, a \$1.6 million increase compensation and benefits primarily related to corporate bonuses, a \$1.1 million increase in fixed asset depreciation and a \$1.1 million increase in insurance costs. Additionally, a \$1.0 million fee was incurred to terminate and settle the C&I investment fund, and legal and other fees increased \$0.6 million related to the failed acquisition by SunEdison.

Amortization of Intangible Assets. The \$10.4 million decrease was primarily due to a \$10.9 million decrease in amortization related to our customer contracts intangible asset as it became fully amortized in 2015, which was partially offset by the amortization of other intangible assets.

Impairment of Goodwill and Intangible Assets. An impairment charge of \$36.6 million was recorded in 2016 to write off the entire value of goodwill as it was deemed to be fully impaired during the nine months ended September 30, 2016. An impairment charge of \$4.5 million was recorded in 2015 to write down the value of intangibles associated with two Vivint Solar Labs products for which external sales were discontinued.

Non-Operating Expenses

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| | Nine Months Ended | | \$ |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|
| | September 30, | | Change |
| | 2016 | 2015 | 2016 from 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | | |
| Interest expense | \$22,539 | \$8,208 | \$14,331 |
| Other (income) expense | (95) | 399 | (494) |

Interest Expense. Interest expense increased \$14.3 million primarily due to the cost of financing additional borrowings year over year.

Other (Income) Expense. The \$0.5 million change from other expense to other income was primarily due to a \$0.3 million gain related to the ineffective portion of our cash flow hedge that was recognized in other income during the period and a \$0.2 million decrease in the accrual for tax-related interest and penalties due to an abatement of a portion of prior period tax penalties.

Income Taxes

| Nine Months Ended | | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| September 30, | | \$ | |
| | | Change | |
| | | 2016 | |
| | | from | |
| 2016 | 2015 | 2015 | |
| (In thousands) | | | |
| Income tax expense | \$10,245 | \$15,977 | \$(5,732) |

The \$5.7 million decrease in income tax expense was primarily attributable to the net effect of non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests, federal investment tax credits, amortization of the prepaid tax asset and the goodwill impairment charge.

Net Loss Attributable to Non-Controlling Interests and Redeemable Non-Controlling Interests

| | | Nine Months Ended | | |
|---|------|-------------------|--|--------|
| | | September 30, | | \$ |
| | | | | Change |
| | | | | 2016 |
| | | | | from |
| | 2016 | 2015 | | 2015 |
| (In thousands) | | | | |
| Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable | | | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| non-controlling interests | \$(194,978) | \$(226,262) | \$31,284 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|

Net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests was allocated using the HLBV method. Generally, gains and losses that are allocated to the fund investors relate to hypothetical liquidation gains and losses resulting from differences between the net assets of the investment fund and the partners' respective tax capital accounts in the investment fund. Losses allocated to the fund investors are generally derived from the receipt of ITCs and tax depreciation under Internal Revenue Code Section 168(k). These tax benefits are primarily allocated to the investors and reduce the fund investors' tax capital account. The current period decrease in net loss attributable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests was due to the signing of fund amendments in the second quarter of 2015 allowing for bonus tax depreciation to be allocated to the fund investors solely in 2015. This one-time allocation of bonus tax depreciation significantly reduced the fund investors' tax capital accounts leading to an increased HLBV loss in 2015.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of September 30, 2016, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$113.0 million, which consisted principally of cash and time deposits with high-credit-quality financial institutions. As discussed in Note 10—Debt Obligations and Note 12—Investment Funds, we do not have full access to a portion of our cash and cash equivalents. We finance our operations primarily from investment fund arrangements that we have formed with fund investors, from borrowings and from cash inflows from operations. Our principal uses of cash are funding our operations, including the costs of acquisition and installation of solar energy systems, working capital requirements and the satisfaction of our obligations under our debt instruments. Our business model requires substantial outside financing arrangements to grow the business and facilitate the deployment of additional solar energy systems. While there can be no assurances, we anticipate raising additional required capital from new and existing fund investors, additional borrowings and other

potential financing vehicles.

We may seek to raise financing through the sale of equity, equity-linked securities, additional borrowings or other financing vehicles. Additional equity or equity-linked financing may be dilutive to our stockholders. If we raise funding through additional borrowings, such borrowings would have rights that are senior to holders of our equity securities and could contain covenants that restrict our operations. We believe our cash and cash equivalents, including our investment fund commitments, projected investment fund contributions and our current debt facilities as further described below, in addition to financing that we may obtain from other sources, including our financial sponsors, will be sufficient to meet our anticipated cash needs for at least the next 12 months. However, if we are unable to secure additional financing when needed, or upon desirable terms, we may be unable to finance installation of our customers' systems in a manner consistent with our past performance, our cost of capital could increase, or we may be required to significantly reduce the scope of our operations, any of which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. While we believe additional financing is available and will continue to be available to support our current level of operations, we believe we have the ability and intent to reduce operations to the level of available financial resources for at least the next 12 months.

Sources of Funds

Investment Fund Commitments

As of October 31, 2016, we have raised 17 residential investment funds to which investors such as banks and other large financial investors have committed to invest approximately \$1.1 billion, which will enable us to install solar energy systems of total fair market value approximating \$2.8 billion. The undrawn committed capital for these funds as of October 31, 2016 is approximately \$22 million, which includes approximately \$18 million in payments that will be received from fund investors upon interconnection to the respective power grid of solar energy systems that have already been allocated to investment funds. As of October 31, 2016, we had tax equity commitments to fund approximately 4 megawatts of future deployments, which we estimate to be sufficient to fund solar energy systems with a total fair market value of approximately \$15 million.

Debt Instruments

Term Loan Facility. In August 2016, we entered into a credit agreement, or the Term Loan Facility, pursuant to which we may borrow up to \$313.0 million aggregate principal amount of term borrowings and letters of credit from certain financial institutions for which Investec Bank PLC is acting as administrative agent. Proceeds of \$300.0 million in term loan borrowings under the Term Loan Facility were used to: (1) repay \$220.5 million of existing indebtedness under the Aggregation Facility to remove the portfolio of projects being used as collateral for the Term Loan Facility, or the Portfolio; (2) distribute \$63.6 million to us; (3) pay \$10.6 million in transaction costs and fees in connection with the Term Loan Facility; and (4) fund \$5.3 million in agreed reserve accounts. Additionally, letters of credit for up to \$13.0 million were issued for a debt service reserve. As of September 30, 2016, we had no borrowing capacity remaining under the Term Loan Facility.

For the initial four years of the term of the Term Loan Facility, interest on borrowings accrues at an annual rate equal to London Interbank Offered Rate or, LIBOR, plus 3.00%. Thereafter interest accrues at an annual rate equal to LIBOR plus 3.25%. In the third quarter of 2016, as required by the Term Loan Facility agreement, we entered into an interest rate swap hedging arrangement such that 90% of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding term loan is subject to a fixed interest rate. Certain principal payments are due on a quarterly basis, at the end of January, April, July and October of each year, subject to the occurrence of certain events, including failure to meet certain distribution conditions, proceeds received by the borrower or subsidiary guarantors in respect of casualties, and proceeds received for purchased systems. Principal and interest payable under the Term Loan Facility mature in five years and optional prepayments, in whole or in part, are permitted under the Term Loan Facility, without premium or penalty apart from any customary LIBOR breakage provisions. As of September 30, 2016, the hedged portion of the Term Loan Facility accrued interest at 4.0% and the unhedged portion of the Term Loan Facility accrued interest at 3.5%.

The Term Loan Facility includes customary events of default, conditions to borrowing and covenants, including negative covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the borrower's and guarantors' ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make fundamental changes to their respective businesses, make certain types of restricted payments and investments or enter into certain transactions with affiliates. A debt service reserve account was funded with the outstanding letters of credit under the Term Loan Facility. As such, the debt service reserve is not classified as restricted cash and cash equivalents on the condensed consolidated balance sheets. The borrower is required to maintain an average debt service coverage ratio of 1.55 to 1. As of September 30, 2016, we were in compliance with such covenants.

The obligations of the borrower are secured by a pledge of the membership interests in the borrower, all of the borrower's assets, and the assets of the borrower's directly owned subsidiaries acting as managing members of the underlying investment funds. In addition, we guarantee certain obligations of the borrower under the Term Loan

Facility.

Subordinated HoldCo Facility. In March 2016, we entered into a financing agreement, or the Subordinated HoldCo Facility, formerly known as the Term Loan Facility, pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$200.0 million of term loan borrowings from investment funds and accounts advised by HPS Investment Partners, formerly known as Highbridge Principal Strategies, LLC. The initial \$75.0 million in borrowings are referred to as “Tranche A” borrowings. The remaining \$125.0 million aggregate principal amount in borrowings may be incurred in three installments of at least \$25.0 million aggregate principal amount prior to March 2017. Such subsequent borrowings are referred to as “Tranche B” borrowings. We incurred \$25.0 million in Tranche B borrowings in July 2016. As a result, the maturity date for all borrowings was extended to March 2020. We may not prepay any borrowings until March 2018 and any subsequent prepayments of principal are subject to a 3.0% fee. Borrowings under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility will be used for the construction and acquisition of solar energy systems. As of September 30, 2016, we had incurred \$99.8 million in borrowings under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility and we had remaining borrowing capacity of \$100.2 million.

Prior to the Tranche B borrowings being incurred, interest on principal borrowings under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility accrued at a floating rate of LIBOR plus 5.5%. Subsequent to the Tranche B borrowings being incurred, interest accrues at a floating rate of LIBOR plus 8.0%. As of September 30, 2016, the Subordinated HoldCo Facility accrued interest at 8.6%.

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The Subordinated HoldCo Facility includes customary events of default, conditions to borrowing and covenants, including covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the borrower's, and the guarantors' ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make investments, make fundamental changes to their business, dispose of assets, make certain types of restricted payments or enter into certain related party transactions. These restrictions do not impact our ability to enter into investment funds, including those that are similar to those entered into previously. Additionally, the parties to the Subordinated HoldCo Facility must maintain certain consolidated and project subsidiary loan-to-value ratios and a consolidated debt service coverage ratio, with such covenants to be tested as of the last day of each fiscal quarter and upon each incurrence of borrowings. Each of the parties to the Subordinated HoldCo Facility has pledged assets not otherwise pledged under another existing debt facility as collateral to secure their obligations under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility. As of September 30, 2016, we were in compliance with such covenants.

Aggregation Credit Facility. In September 2014, we entered into a credit agreement, or the Aggregation Facility, which has subsequently been amended, pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$375.0 million and, for which Bank of America, N.A. is acting as administrative agent. Upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and the approval of the lenders, we may increase the aggregate amount of principal borrowings to \$550.0 million. As of September 30, 2016, we had incurred an aggregate of \$148.5 million in borrowings under this agreement and we had a remaining borrowing capacity of \$226.5 million under this facility.

Prepayments are permitted under the Aggregation Facility and the principal and accrued interest on any outstanding loans mature in March 2018. Under the Aggregation Facility, interest on borrowings accrues at a floating rate equal to (1)(a) LIBOR or (b) the greatest of (i) the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.5%, (ii) the administrative agent's prime rate and (iii) LIBOR plus 1% and (2) a margin that varies between 3.25% during the period during which the Company may incur borrowings and 3.50% after such period. Interest is payable at the end of each interest period that the Company may elect as a term of either one, two or three months. As of September 30, 2016, the borrowings under the Aggregation Facility accrued interest at 3.8%.

The Aggregation Facility includes customary covenants, including covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, the borrower's, and the guarantors' ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make investments, make fundamental changes to their business, dispose of assets, make certain types of restricted payments or enter into certain related party transactions. Among other restrictions, the Aggregation Facility provides that the borrower may not incur any indebtedness other than that related to the Aggregation Facility or in respect of permitted swap agreements, and that the guarantors may not incur any indebtedness other than that related to the Aggregation Facility or as permitted under existing investment fund transaction documents. These restrictions do not impact our ability to enter into investment funds, including those that are similar to those entered into previously. As of September 30, 2016, we were in compliance with such covenants. Previously, the Company was required to obtain an interest rate hedge by September 13, 2016. As of September 30, 2016, the Company is now required to obtain the interest rate hedge by January 16, 2017, and no interest rate hedge has been entered into for this facility.

Working Capital Credit Facility. In March 2015, we entered into a credit agreement, or the Working Capital Facility, pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$150.0 million from certain financial institutions for which Goldman Sachs Lending Partners LLC is acting as administrative agent and collateral agent. Loans under the Working Capital Facility were used to pay for the costs incurred in connection with the design and construction of solar energy systems, and letters of credit were issued for working capital and general corporate purposes. The Working Capital Facility matures in March 2020. As of September 30, 2016, we had incurred \$142.6 million in borrowings under this credit facility and up to \$7.4 million in letters of credit related to insurance contracts. As such, there was no remaining borrowing capacity available as of September 30, 2016.

Prepayments are permitted under the Working Capital Facility, and the principal and accrued interest on any outstanding loans mature in March 2020. Interest accrues on borrowings at a floating rate equal to, dependent on the type of borrowing, (1) a rate equal to the Eurodollar Rate for the interest period divided by one minus the Eurodollar Reserve Percentage, plus a margin of 3.25%; or (2) the highest of (a) the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.50%, (b) the Citibank prime rate and (c) the one-month interest period Eurodollar rate plus 1.00%, plus a margin of 2.25%. Interest is payable dependent on the type of borrowing at the end of (1) the interest period that we elect as a term and not to exceed three months, (2) quarterly or (3) at maturity of the Working Capital Facility. As of September 30, 2016, the borrowings under the Working Capital Facility accrued interest at 3.8%.

The Working Capital Facility includes customary covenants, including covenants that restrict, subject to certain exceptions, our ability to incur indebtedness, incur liens, make investments, make fundamental changes to our business, dispose of assets, make certain types of restricted payments or enter into certain related party transactions. Among other restrictions, the Working Capital Facility provides that we may not incur any indebtedness other than that related to the Working Capital Facility or in respect of permitted swap agreements. These restrictions do not impact our ability to enter into investment funds, including those that are similar to those entered into previously. We are also required to maintain \$25.0 million in cash and cash equivalents and certain investments as of the last day of each quarter. As of September 30, 2016, we were in compliance with such covenants.

Cash Inflows from Operations

In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, we generated \$33.4 million and \$80.0 million in revenue from operating leases and incentives, which approximates cash inflow. Cash related to our solar energy systems sales is generally received prior to revenue recognition. The cash from our revenue partially offsets the cash used in operations for the period.

Uses of Funds

Our principal uses of cash are funding our operations, including the costs of acquisition and installation of solar energy systems, satisfaction of our obligations under our debt instruments and other working capital requirements. Our operating expenses have increased from year to year due to the growth of our business. We expect our capital expenditures to continue to increase as we continue to grow our business. We will need to raise financing to support our operations, and such financing may not be available to us on acceptable terms, or at all.

Historical Cash Flows

The following table summarizes our cash flows for the periods indicated:

| | Nine Months Ended | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| | September 30, | |
| | 2016 | 2015 |
| | (In thousands) | |
| Consolidated cash flow data: | | |
| Net cash used in operating activities | \$(123,880) | \$(144,635) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (329,002) | (397,287) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities | 473,706 | 362,028 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | \$20,824 | \$(179,894) |

Operating Activities

In the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we had a net cash outflow from operations of \$123.9 million. This outflow was primarily due to a \$197.1 million net loss and a \$122.3 million increase in prepaid tax assets. The outflow was partially offset by noncash adjustments of \$124.9 million for deferred income taxes, \$36.6 million for impairment of goodwill, and \$32.4 million for depreciation and amortization.

Investing Activities

In the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we used \$329.0 million in investing activities primarily due to \$318.3 million in costs associated with the design, acquisition and installation of solar energy systems and \$8.4 million to increase the balance in restricted cash and cash equivalents.

Financing Activities

In the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we generated \$473.7 million from financing activities, of which \$500.3 million was received in proceeds from long-term debt and \$237.1 million was received in proceeds from investments by non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests into our investment funds. These proceeds were partially offset by repayments of long-term debt of \$224.4 million, distributions to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests of \$22.2 million, and payments for debt issuance costs and capital lease obligations of \$21.1 million.

Contractual Obligations

Our contractual commitments and obligations as of December 31, 2015 are laid out in the following table. Changes that have occurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 are included in the footnotes to the table.

| | Payments Due by Period | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | Less than 1 Year | 1-3 Years | 3-5 Years | More than 5 Years | Total |
| | (In thousands) | | | | |
| Long-term debt ⁽¹⁾ | \$— | \$269,100 | \$146,750 | \$— | \$415,850 |
| Interest payments related to long-term debt ⁽²⁾ | 15,206 | 22,819 | 6,353 | — | 44,378 |
| Distributions payable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests ⁽³⁾ | 11,347 | — | — | — | 11,347 |
| Capital lease obligations and interest | 6,405 | 9,815 | 1,044 | — | 17,264 |
| Operating lease obligations | 14,223 | 23,129 | 18,969 | 81,216 | 137,537 |
| Total | \$47,181 | \$324,863 | \$173,116 | \$81,216 | \$626,376 |

⁽¹⁾Does not include additional borrowings and repayments during the nine months ended September 30, 2016, which resulted in a net \$275.9 million increase in principal borrowings. These borrowing included the following activity: under the Term Loan Facility maturing in August 2021, we incurred \$300.0 million of principal borrowings; under the Subordinated HoldCo Facility maturing in March 2020, we incurred \$99.8 million in principal borrowings; under the Aggregation Facility maturing in March 2018, we reduced principal borrowings by a net \$120.6 million; and under the Working Capital Facility maturing in March 2020, we reduced principal borrowings by \$4.2 million. For additional information, see the section captioned “Liquidity and Capital Resources.”

⁽²⁾Does not include increases in interest payments related to changes in long-term debt during the nine months ended September 30, 2016, which for payments due in less than one year increased \$13.6 million, payments due in one to three years increased \$36.0 million, payments due in three to five years increased \$35.0 million and payments due in more than five years increased \$8.0 million.

⁽³⁾During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, distributions payable to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests increased by \$5.1 million.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We include in our condensed consolidated financial statements all assets and liabilities and results of operations of investment fund arrangements that we have entered into. We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In October 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or the FASB, issued Accounting Standards Update, or ASU, 2016-17, Consolidation (Topic 810): Interests held through related parties that are under common control. This update does not change the characteristics of a primary beneficiary in current account guidance, but requires an entity to consider additional factors when determining if it is the primary beneficiary of a VIE that is under common control with related parties. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016 for public business entities. The amendments in this updates should be applied using a modified retrospective approach. We are evaluating this update but currently expects it will not have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In October 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-16, Income Taxes (Topic 740): Intra-Entity Transfers of Assets Other Than Inventory. Current accounting guidance prohibits the recognition of current and deferred income taxes for an intra-entity asset transfer until the asset has been sold to an outside party. This update will require an entity to recognize the income tax consequences of an intra-entity transfer of an asset other than inventory when the transfer occurs. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The amendments in this update should be applied using a modified retrospective approach. We are evaluating this update but currently expect it will have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In August 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows (Topic 230): Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments. This update clarifies how certain cash flows should be classified with the objective of reducing the existing diversity in practice. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The amendments in this update should be applied using a retrospective transition method and must all be applied in the same period. We are evaluating the impact of this update on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

From March 2016 through May 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-12, ASU 2016-11, ASU 2016-10 and ASU 2016-08. These updates all clarify aspects of the guidance in ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, which represents comprehensive reform to revenue recognition principles related to customer contracts. Additionally, per ASU 2015-14, the effective date of these updates for us was deferred to January 1, 2018, with early adoption available on January 1, 2017. We currently plan to adopt the new standard in 2018 using the retrospective transition method. We are still evaluating the impact this guidance will have on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation—Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting. The objective of this update is to simplify several aspects of the accounting for share-based payment transactions, including the income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities, forfeiture rates and classification on the statement of cash flows. This update is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. We expect to apply the update upon its effectiveness in the first quarter of 2017 and expect the update to have an impact to our equity balance in the condensed consolidated balance sheet and all expense line items where stock compensation is recorded on the condensed consolidated statement of operations in the first quarter of 2017.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). The objective of this update is to increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. This update primarily changes the recognition by lessees of lease assets and liabilities for leases currently classified as operating leases. Lessor accounting remains largely unchanged. This update is effective in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018 for public business entities and early adoption is permitted. The amendments should be applied using a modified retrospective approach. We have operating leases that will be affected by this update and are evaluating the impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In January 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-01, Financial Instruments – Overall (Topic 825-10): Recognition and Measurement of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities. The objective of this update is to enhance the reporting model for financial instruments to provide users of financial statements with more decision-useful information. The amendments in this update address certain aspects of recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of financial instruments. This update is effective in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. The amendments should be applied by means of a cumulative-effect adjustment to the balance sheet as of the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption. We do not expect the update to have a significant impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, Simplifying the Measurement of Inventory. This ASU changes the measurement principle for inventories valued under the first-in, first-out, or FIFO, or weighted-average methods from the lower of cost or market to the lower of cost or net realizable value. Net realizable value is defined by the FASB as estimated selling prices in the ordinary course of business, less reasonably predictable costs of completion, disposal and transportation. This ASU does not change the measurement principles for inventories valued under the last-in, first-out method. The update is effective in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted. We do not expect this update to have a significant impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

Emerging Growth Company Status

Section 107 of the JOBS Act provides that an “emerging growth company” can take advantage of the extended transition period provided in Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act for complying with new or revised accounting standards. In other words, an “emerging growth company” can delay the adoption of certain accounting standards until

those standards would otherwise apply to private companies. We have irrevocably elected not to avail ourselves of this exemption from new or revised accounting standards and, therefore, we will be subject to the same new or revised accounting standards as other public companies that are not “emerging growth companies.”

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

Our exposure to market risk for changes in interest rates relates primarily to our cash and cash equivalents and our indebtedness.

As of September 30, 2016, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$113.0 million. Our cash equivalents are time deposits with maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase. Our primary exposure to market risk on these funds is interest income sensitivity, which is affected by changes in the general level of the interest rates in the United States. However, because of the short-term nature of the instruments in our portfolio, a sudden change in market interest rates would not be expected to have a material impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements.

As of September 30, 2016, we had incurred an aggregate principal amount of \$691.7 million in borrowings under our debt facilities, which accrued interest at floating rates. As of September 30, 2016, interest accrued at a weighted-average rate of approximately 4.6%. If our debt facilities had been fully drawn at December 31, 2015 and remained outstanding for all of 2016, the effect of a hypothetical 10% change in our floating interest rates on these borrowings would increase or decrease interest expense by approximately \$4.8 million.

All of our operations are in the United States and all purchases of our solar energy system components are denominated in U.S. dollars. However, our suppliers often incur a significant amount of their costs by purchasing raw materials and generating operating expenses in foreign currencies. If the value of the U.S. dollar depreciates significantly or for a prolonged period of time against these currencies (particularly the Chinese Renminbi), our suppliers may raise the prices they charge us, which could harm our financial results.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, with the participation of our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2016 pursuant to Rule 13a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). The term “disclosure controls and procedures,” as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act, means controls and other procedures of a company that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the company’s management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined by Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act). In assessing the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2016, our management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (2013 framework).

Based on the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2016, our chief executive officer and chief financial officer concluded that, as a result of material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting as disclosed in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of September 30, 2016.

Material Weakness

In connection with the preparation, audits and interim reviews of our past consolidated financial statements, we and our independent registered public accounting firm identified a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting. Under standards established by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board of the United States, a material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

We previously reported a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting for the year ended December 31, 2014. This previously reported material weakness had not been fully remediated for the year ended December 31, 2015 or for the nine months ended September 30, 2016, and as a result, we continued to have deficiencies in our internal controls including those associated with the HLBV method of attributing net income or loss to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests and with our financial statement close process.

The nature of our investment funds increases the complexity of our accounting for the allocation of net income (loss) between our stockholders and non-controlling interests under the HLBV method and the calculation of our tax provision. As we enter into additional investment funds, which may have contractual provisions different from those of our existing funds, the calculation under the HLBV method and the calculation of our tax provision could become increasingly complicated. This additional complexity could increase the chance that we experience additional errors in the future, particularly because we have a material weakness in internal controls. In addition, our need to devote our resources to addressing this complexity could delay or prolong our remediation efforts and thereby prolong the existence of the material weakness.

We have taken steps to remediate the underlying causes of the material weakness that was reported for the year ended December 31, 2014. We have hired a number of additional financial, accounting and tax personnel in addition to a director of internal audit to assist us in implementing and improving our existing internal controls and a chief information officer to assist us in improving our underlying information technology systems and to decrease our reliance on manual processes. We engaged third-party consultants to provide support over our accounting and tax processes to assist us with our evaluation of complex technical accounting matters. We engaged consultants to advise us on making further improvements to our internal controls over financial reporting. We believe that these additional resources will enable us to broaden the scope and quality of our controls relating to the oversight and review of financial statements and our application of relevant accounting policies. Furthermore, we continue to implement and improve systems to automate certain financial reporting processes and to improve information accuracy. These remediation efforts are still in process and have not yet been completed. Because of this material weakness, there is heightened risk that a material misstatement of our annual or quarterly financial statements will not be prevented or detected.

The actions that we are taking are subject to ongoing senior management review as well as audit committee oversight. We are working diligently on this remediation process; however, we cannot estimate how long it will take to remediate this material weakness. In addition, the remediation steps we have taken, are taking and expect to take may not effectively remediate the material weakness, in which case our internal control over financial reporting would continue to be ineffective. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to complete our remedial actions successfully. Even if we are able to complete these actions successfully, these measures may not adequately address our material weakness. In addition, it is possible that we will discover additional material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting or that our existing material weakness will result in additional errors in or restatements of our financial statements.

We will be required to engage an independent registered public accounting firm to opine on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting beginning at the date we are no longer an “emerging growth company” as defined in the JOBS Act. At such time, our management may conclude that our internal control over financial reporting is not effective. Moreover, even if our management concludes that our internal control over financial reporting is effective, our independent registered public accounting firm may issue a report that is adverse if such firm is not satisfied with the level at which our controls are documented, designed, operated or reviewed. As a result, we may need to undertake various actions, such as implementing new internal controls and procedures and hiring additional accounting or internal audit staff. Our remediation efforts may not enable us to avoid a material weakness in the future. In addition, as a public company, our reporting obligations may place a significant strain on our management, operational and financial resources and systems for the foreseeable future.

(b) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting, other than those described above.

Inherent Limitation on the Effectiveness of Internal Control

The effectiveness of any system of internal control over financial reporting, including ours, is subject to inherent limitations, including the exercise of judgment in designing, implementing, operating, and evaluating the controls and procedures, and the inability to eliminate misconduct completely. Accordingly, any system of internal control over financial reporting, including ours, no matter how well designed and operated, can only provide reasonable, not absolute assurances. In addition, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the

policies or procedures may deteriorate. We intend to continue to monitor and upgrade our internal controls as necessary or appropriate for our business, but cannot assure you that such improvements will be sufficient to provide us with effective internal control over financial reporting.

PART II – OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

In September 2014, two of our former installation technicians, on behalf of themselves and a purported class, filed a complaint for damages, injunctive relief and restitution in the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of San Diego against us and unnamed John Doe defendants. The complaint alleges certain violations of the California Labor Code and the California Business and Professions Code based on, among other things, alleged improper classification of installer technicians, installer helpers, electrician technicians and electrician helpers, failure to pay minimum and overtime wages, failure to provide accurate itemized wage statements, and failure to provide wages on termination. In December 2014, the original plaintiffs and three additional plaintiffs filed an amended complaint with essentially the same allegations. On November 5, 2015, the parties agreed to preliminary terms of a settlement of all claims related to allegations in the complaint in return for our payment of \$1.7 million to be paid out to the purported class members, which was accrued at that time. The Court gave final approval to the settlement on September 30, 2016. On October 7, 2016, we made payment of the \$1.7 million gross settlement fund to the settlement claim administrator.

In November and December 2014, two putative class action lawsuits were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York against us, our directors, certain of our officers and the underwriters of our initial public offering of common stock alleging violation of securities laws and seeking unspecified damages. In January 2015, the Court ordered these cases to be consolidated into the earlier filed case, *Hyatt v. Vivint Solar, Inc. et al.*, 14-cv-9283 (KBF). The plaintiffs filed a consolidated amended complaint in February 2015. On May 6, 2015, we filed a motion to dismiss the complaint and on December 10, 2015, the Court issued an Opinion and Order dismissing the complaint with prejudice. On January 5, 2016, the plaintiffs filed a Notice of Appeal to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. On August 25, 2016, the Court of Appeals heard oral arguments on the appeal. We are unable to estimate a range of loss, if any, that could result were there to be an adverse final decision. If an unfavorable outcome were to occur in this case, it is possible that the impact could be material to our results of operations in the period(s) in which any such outcome becomes probable and estimable.

On September 9, 2015, two of our customers, on behalf of themselves and a purported class, named us in a putative class action, Case No. BCV-15-100925 (Cal. Super. Ct., Kern County), alleging violation of California Business and Professional Code Section 17200 and requesting relief pursuant to Section 1689 of the California Civil Code. The complaint seeks: (1) rescission of their power purchase agreements along with restitution to the plaintiffs individually and (2) declaratory and injunctive relief. On October 16, 2015, we moved to compel arbitration of the plaintiffs' claims pursuant to the provisions set forth in the power purchase agreements, which the Court granted and dismissed the class claims without prejudice. Plaintiffs have appealed the Court's order. We are not able to estimate the amount or range of potential loss, if any, at this time.

On March 8, 2016, we filed suit in the Court of Chancery State of Delaware against SunEdison and SEV Merger Sub Inc. alleging that SunEdison willfully breached its obligations under the Merger Agreement pursuant to which we were to be acquired and breached its implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. We are seeking declaratory judgment, award damages, costs and reasonable attorney's fees and such further relief that the court finds equitable, appropriate and just. On April 21, 2016, SunEdison filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, thereby creating a temporary stay on the prosecution of our litigation in the Delaware court. On July 7, 2016, we filed a motion with the bankruptcy court seeking to lift the stay and allow us to litigate our claim against SunEdison. On September 13, 2016, the bankruptcy court denied our motion to lift the stay, effectively requiring that our claim be litigated in the bankruptcy proceeding. On September 22, 2016, we submitted a proof of claim in the bankruptcy case for an unsecured claim in the amount of \$1.0 billion. We are participating in the bankruptcy case so as to maximize the recovery from the claims against SunEdison.

In March 2016, a civil complaint was filed against us alleging negligence and related claims arising from damage to a customer's residence. In June 2016, we reached agreement between us, the plaintiffs and our liability insurance provider to participate in an arbitration proceeding that will determine the extent of damages - with a minimum amount set at \$1.0 million and a maximum amount set at \$3.0 million. Based on the above agreement, a \$1.0 million reserve was recorded related to this matter in our condensed consolidated financial statements. The arbitration hearing was held in September 2016, but the arbitrator has not yet issued a decision. We anticipate that the entirety of any damage award will be satisfied by our liability insurance provider and a related \$1.0 million receivable was recorded in our condensed consolidated financial statements.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

You should carefully consider the following risk factors, together with all of the other information included in this report, including the section of this report captioned “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and our financial statements and related notes. If any of the following risks occurred, it could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or operating results. This report also contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements as a result of factors that are described below and elsewhere in this report.

Risk Related to our Business

We need to enter into substantial additional financing arrangements to facilitate new customers’ access to our solar energy systems, and if financing is not available to us on acceptable terms when needed, our ability to continue to grow our business would be materially adversely impacted.

Our future success depends on our ability to raise capital from third-party investors on competitive terms to help finance the deployment of our solar energy systems. We seek to minimize our cost of capital in order to maintain the price competitiveness of the electricity produced by, or the lease payments for, our solar energy systems. If we are unable to establish new investment funds when needed, or upon desirable terms, to enable our customers’ access to our solar energy systems with little to no upfront cost to them, we may be unable to finance installation of our customers’ systems or our cost of capital could increase, either of which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. As of October 31, 2016, we had raised 17 investment funds to which investors such as banks and other large financial investors have committed to invest approximately \$1.1 billion which will enable us to install solar energy systems of total fair market value approximating \$2.8 billion. As of October 31, 2016, we had remaining residential tax equity commitments to fund approximately 4 megawatts of future deployments, which we estimate to be sufficient to fund solar energy systems with a total fair market value of approximately \$15 million. The contract terms in certain of our investment fund documents impose conditions on our ability to draw on financing commitments from the fund investors, including if an event occurs that could reasonably be expected to have a material adverse effect on the fund or on us. If we do not satisfy such conditions due to events related to our business or a specific investment fund or developments in our industry or otherwise, and as a result we are unable to draw on existing commitments, our inability to draw on such commitments could have a material adverse effect on our business, liquidity, financial condition and prospects. In addition to our inability to draw on the investors’ commitments, we may incur financial penalties for non-performance, including delays in the installation process and interconnection to the power grid of solar energy systems and other factors. Based on the terms of the investment fund agreements, we will either reimburse a portion of the fund investor’s capital or pay the fund investor a non-performance fee. For example, in October 2016, we paid a contractually agreed upon \$1.8 million capital distribution to reimburse a fund investor a portion of its capital contribution primarily due to a delay in solar energy systems being interconnected to the power grid and other factors.

To meet the capital needs of our growing business, we will need to obtain additional financing from new investors and investors with whom we currently have arrangements. If any of the financial institutions that currently provide financing decide not to invest in the future due to general market conditions, concerns about our business or prospects or any other reason, or decide to invest at levels that are inadequate to support our anticipated needs or materially change the terms under which they are willing to provide future financing, we will need to identify new financial institutions and companies to provide financing and negotiate new financing terms. In addition, the pendency of the SunEdison acquisition and the risks and uncertainties associated with it adversely affected the willingness of parties to enter into financing arrangements with us. This, combined with restrictions under the Merger Agreement on our ability to incur, assume or guarantee any indebtedness, or make any loans or advances to any other person, restricted

our ability to raise additional capital during the pendency of the acquisition and our business may continue to be affected by the residual impact of these or similar factors. If we are unable to raise additional capital in a timely manner, our ability to meet our capital needs and fund future growth may be limited.

In the past, we have sometimes been unable to timely establish investment funds in accordance with our plans, due in part to the relatively limited number of investors attracted to such types of funds, competition for such capital and the complexity associated with negotiating the agreements with respect to such funds. Delays in raising financing could cause us to delay expanding in existing markets or entering into new markets and hiring additional personnel in support of our planned growth. Any future delays in capital raising could similarly cause us to delay deployment of a substantial number of solar energy systems for which we have signed power purchase agreements or leases with customers. Our future ability to obtain additional financing depends on banks' and other financing sources' continued confidence in our business model and the renewable energy industry as a whole. It could also be impacted by the liquidity needs of such financing sources themselves. We face intense competition from a variety of other companies, technologies and financing structures for such limited investment capital. If we are unable to continue to offer a competitive investment profile, we may lose access to these funds or they may only be available to us on terms that are less favorable than those received by our competitors. For example, if we experience higher customer default rates than we currently experience in our existing investment funds, this could make it more difficult or costly to attract future financing. In our experience, there are a relatively small number of investors that generate sufficient profits and possess the requisite financial sophistication that can benefit from and have significant demand for the tax benefits that our investment funds can provide. Historically, in the distributed solar energy industry, investors have typically been large financial institutions and a few large, profitable corporations. Our ability to raise investment funds is limited by the relatively small number of such investors. Any inability to secure financing could lead us to cancel planned installations, could impair our ability to accept new customers and could increase our borrowing costs, any of which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

SunEdison's failure to complete the acquisition, and its subsequent bankruptcy filing, has affected and may in the future, materially and adversely affect our results of operations and stock price.

On July 20, 2015, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, or Merger Agreement, as amended by the Amendment to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of December 9, 2015, with SunEdison, Inc., or SunEdison, a Delaware corporation, and SEV Merger Sub Inc., a Delaware corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of SunEdison, pursuant to which we were to have been acquired by SunEdison.

We delivered notice to SunEdison on February 26, 2016, and again on March 1, 2016, that, pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, SunEdison was required to cause the closing of the acquisition to occur on February 26, 2016, and remained obligated to cause the closing to occur.

SunEdison's failure to cause the closing to occur was a breach of its covenants under the Merger Agreement. SunEdison's representatives subsequently informed us that SunEdison was unable to cause the closing to occur in the foreseeable future.

As a result of the foregoing and in accordance with and pursuant to our rights under the Merger Agreement, we terminated the Merger Agreement on March 7, 2016. On March 8, 2016, we filed suit in the Court of Chancery State of Delaware against SunEdison and SEV Merger Sub Inc. alleging that SunEdison willfully breached its obligations under the Merger Agreement. Due to SunEdison's bankruptcy filing on April 21, 2016, and the bankruptcy court's subsequent denial of our motion for relief from the automatic stay, our claim for damages for breach of the Merger Agreement is likely to be resolved by the bankruptcy court. While we believe that SunEdison willfully breached its obligations under the Merger Agreement and that our claims have merit and are likely to succeed, the outcomes of lawsuits are inherently unpredictable, and we may be unsuccessful in our claims. Moreover, due to the nature of bankruptcy proceedings, it is likely that the SunEdison bankruptcy estate will have insufficient assets to fully satisfy our claim, even if the claim is determined to be meritorious.

SunEdison's failure to close the acquisition presents other significant risks to us. In response to the announcement of the acquisition, and due to uncertainty regarding the closing of the acquisition, our existing or prospective customers or suppliers have or may have:

- delayed, deferred and may cease purchasing products or services from or providing products or services to us;
- delayed or deferred other decisions concerning us; or
- otherwise sought to change the terms on which they do business with us.

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Additionally, due to these uncertainties and to SunEdison's required approvals, we ceased certain employee actions such as hiring, terminating and reallocating personnel. Our employees and our management teams reallocated significant time to integration efforts. We deferred transitions to key IT systems as a standalone company. We were also caused to defer and delay financing options, including acquiring additional investment funds and debt facilities, which has decreased our operational efficiency and effectiveness. Further, SunEdison withheld approval of power purchase agreement enhancements as a leverage tool, which further decreased our effectiveness in attracting and obtaining prospective customers. These delays and uncertainties have disrupted, and may continue to disrupt our business and adversely impact our results of operations as we continue to operate as a standalone company.

A material reduction in the retail price of traditional utility-generated electricity or electricity from other sources or other reduction in the cost of such electricity would harm our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

We believe that a significant number of our customers decide to buy solar energy because they want to pay less for electricity than what is offered by the traditional utilities. However, distributed residential solar energy has yet to achieve broad market adoption.

The customer's decision to choose solar energy may also be affected by the cost of other renewable energy sources. Decreases in the retail prices of electricity from the traditional utilities or from other renewable energy sources would harm our ability to offer competitive pricing and could harm our business. The cost of electricity from traditional utilities could decrease as a result of:

- construction of new power generation plants, including plants utilizing natural gas, nuclear, coal, renewable energy or other generation technologies;
- relief of transmission constraints that enable local centers to generate energy less expensively;
- reductions in the price of natural gas or other fuel sources;
- utility rate adjustment and customer class cost reallocation;
 - energy conservation technologies and public initiatives to reduce electricity consumption;
- widespread deployment of existing or development of new or lower-cost energy storage technologies that have the ability to reduce a customer's average cost of electricity by shifting load to off-peak times; and
- development of new energy generation technologies that provide less expensive energy.

A reduction in utility electricity costs would make the purchase of electricity under our power purchase agreements or the lease of our solar energy systems less economically attractive. If the cost of energy available from traditional utilities were to decrease due to any of these reasons, or other reasons, we would be at a competitive disadvantage, we may be unable to attract new customers and our growth would be limited. In addition, in the third quarter of 2016, we increased pricing in certain markets which may negatively impact our competitiveness.

Electric utility industry policies and regulations may present technical, regulatory and economic barriers to the purchase and use of solar energy systems that may significantly reduce demand for electricity from our solar energy systems.

Federal, state and local government regulations and policies concerning the electric utility industry, utility rate structures, interconnection procedures, and internal policies of electric utilities, heavily influence the market for electricity generation products and services. These regulations and policies often relate to electricity pricing and the interconnection of distributed electricity generation systems to the power grid. Policies and regulations that promote renewable energy and customer-sited energy generation have been challenged by traditional utilities and questioned by those in government and others arguing for less governmental spending and involvement in the energy market. To the extent that such views are reflected in government policy, the changes in such policies and regulations could

adversely affect our results of operations, cost of capital and growth prospects.

In the United States, governments and the state public service commissions that determine utility rates continuously modify these regulations and policies. These regulations and policies could result in a significant reduction in the potential demand for electricity from our solar energy systems and could deter customers from entering into contracts with us. In addition, depending on the region, electricity generated by solar energy systems competes most effectively with the most expensive retail rates for electricity from the power grid, rather than the less expensive average price of electricity. Modifications to the utilities' peak hour pricing policies or rate design, such as to a flat rate, would make our current products less competitive with the price of electricity from the power grid. For example, the California Public Utilities Commission recently issued a decision that will transition residential rates over the next four years from a four-tiered structure to a two-tiered structure, with only a 25% differential between the two rates and a surcharge for very high energy users. It is possible that this change could have the effect of lowering the incentive for residential customers of California's large investor-owned utilities to reduce their purchases of electricity from their utility by supplying more of their own electricity from solar, and thereby reduce demand for our products. In addition, California is in the process of shifting to a time-of-use rate structure in the coming year. A shift in the timing of peak rates for utility-generated electricity to a time of day when solar energy generation is less efficient could make our solar energy system offerings less competitive and reduce demand for our offerings. The California Public Utilities Commission determined in January of 2016 that net metering customers taking service on the net energy metering (NEM) successor tariff will be required to take service on time-of-use rates. This transition occurred in 2016 for some of our potential customers. In addition, since we are required to obtain interconnection permission for each solar energy system from the local utility, changes in a local utility's regulations, policies or interconnection process have in the past delayed and in the future could delay or prevent the completion of our solar energy systems. This in turn has delayed and in the future could delay or prevent us from generating revenues from such solar energy systems or cause us to redeploy solar energy systems, adversely impacting our results of operations.

In addition, any changes to government or internal utility regulations and policies that favor electric utilities could reduce our competitiveness and cause a significant reduction in demand for our offerings or increase our costs or the prices we charge our customers. Certain jurisdictions have proposed allowing traditional utilities to assess fees on customers purchasing energy from solar energy systems or have imposed or proposed new charges or rate structures that would disproportionately impact solar energy system customers who utilize net metering, either of which would increase the cost of energy to those customers and could reduce demand for our solar energy systems. For example, the California Public Utilities Commission issued a decision in July 2015 that allowed utilities to impose a minimum \$10 monthly bill for residential customers, approved the concept of fixed charges and will permit the utilities to propose such fixed charges again in 2018. A decision issued in January 2016 will allow new interconnection fees and additional non-by-passable charges to be assessed on customers taking service on California's net metering successor tariff. This will result in monthly charges being imposed on our customers in California. Additionally, certain utilities in Arizona have approved increased rates and charges for net metering customers, and others have proposed doing away with the state's renewable electricity standard carve-outs for distributed generation as well as the state's net metering program. In connection with the latter proposal, the Arizona Corporation Commission is currently considering whether to adjust the net metering credit that customers receive for energy generated from solar energy systems located on their roofs. These policy changes may negatively impact our customers and affect demand for our solar energy systems, and similar changes to net metering policies may occur in other states. It is also possible that these or other changes could be imposed on our current customers, as well as future customers. Due to the current and expected continued concentration of our solar energy systems in California, any such changes in this market would be particularly harmful to our reputation, customer relations, business, results of operations and future growth in these areas. We may be similarly adversely affected if our business becomes concentrated in other jurisdictions.

Our business currently depends on the availability of rebates, tax credits and other financial incentives. The expiration, elimination or reduction of these rebates, credits or incentives could adversely impact our business.

Federal, state and local government and regulatory bodies provide for tariff structures and incentives to various parties including owners, end users, distributors, system integrators and manufacturers of solar energy systems to promote solar energy in various forms, including rebates, tax credits and other financial incentives such as system performance payments, renewable energy credits associated with renewable energy generation, exclusion of solar energy systems from property tax assessments and net metering. We rely on these governmental and regulatory programs to finance solar energy system installations, which enables us to lower the price we charge customers for energy from, and to lease or purchase, our solar energy systems, helping to catalyze customer acceptance of solar energy with those customers as an alternative to utility-provided power. However, these programs may expire on a particular date, end when the allocated funding or capacity allocations are exhausted or be reduced or terminated. These reductions or terminations often occur without warning. For example, the Arizona Department of Revenue has attempted to assess and collect property taxes in the past on rooftop solar energy systems such as ours and counties in Arizona may attempt to assess and collect property taxes in the future. In addition, the financial value of certain incentives decreases over time. For example, the value of solar renewable energy certificates, or SRECs, in a market tends to decrease over time as the supply of SREC-producing solar energy systems installed in that market increases. If we overestimate the future value of these incentives, it could adversely impact our financial results.

The federal government currently offers a 30% investment tax credit, or the ITC, under Section 48(a) of the Internal Revenue Code for the installation of certain solar power facilities; the 30% rate continues until December 31, 2019. By statute, the ITC is scheduled to decrease to 26% for 2020, 22% for 2021 and 10% of the fair market value of a solar energy system on January 1, 2022, and the amounts that fund investors are willing to invest could decrease or we may be required to provide a larger allocation of customer payments to the fund investors as a result of this scheduled decrease. To the extent we have a reduced ability to raise investment funds as a result of this reduction, the rate of growth of installations of our residential solar energy systems could be negatively impacted. The ITC has been a significant driver of the financing supporting the adoption of residential solar energy systems in the United States and its scheduled reduction beginning in 2020, unless modified by an intervening change in law, will significantly impact the attractiveness of solar energy to these investors and could potentially harm our business.

Applicable authorities may adjust or decrease incentives from time to time or include provisions for minimum domestic content requirements or other requirements to qualify for these incentives. Reductions in, eliminations or expirations of or additional application requirements for, governmental incentives could adversely impact our results of operations and ability to compete in our industry by increasing our cost of capital, causing us to increase the prices of our energy and solar energy systems and reducing the size of our addressable market. In addition, this would adversely impact our ability to attract investment partners and to form new investment funds and our ability to offer attractive financing to prospective customers.

We rely on net metering and related policies to offer competitive pricing to our customers in all of our current markets, and changes to net metering policies may significantly reduce demand for electricity from our solar energy systems.

Our business benefits significantly from favorable net metering policies in states in which we operate. Net metering allows a homeowner to pay his or her local electric utility only for their power usage net of production from the solar energy system, transforming the conventional relationship between customers and traditional utilities. Homeowners receive credit for the energy that the solar installation generates in excess of that needed by the home to offset energy usage at times when the solar installation is not generating energy. In states that provide for net metering, the customer typically pays for the net energy used or receives a credit against future bills at the retail rate if more energy is produced by the solar installation than consumed. In some states and utility territories, customers are also reimbursed by the electric utility for net excess generation on a periodic basis.

Forty-one states, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands have adopted some form of net metering. Each of the states where we currently serve customers has adopted some form of a net metering policy.

In recent years, net metering programs have been subject to regulatory scrutiny and legislative proposals in some states, such as Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah. In California, for example, after the earlier of July 1, 2017 or the date the applicable investor owned utility reaches its statutory net metering cap, customers will take service on a new net metering successor tariff. The net metering cap is measured based on the nameplate capacity of net metered systems within the applicable utility's service territory. Currently, the net metering caps for the three large investor-owned utilities are: 617 megawatts for San Diego Gas and Electric Company, or SDG&E; 2,240 megawatts for Southern California Edison Company; and 2,409 megawatts for Pacific Gas and Electric Company. As reflected in their September 30, 2016 reports required by statute, these investor-owned utilities have approximately 0%, 30% and 6%, respectively, of capacity remaining under their respective net metering caps. The statute providing the current caps also provides that, once the new net metering rules are effective, there will be no net metering caps applied to these utilities. During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the net metering cap for SDG&E became fully subscribed. SDG&E is currently allowing net metering systems to interconnect under the NEM successor tariff. For the NEM successor tariff, the Commission largely upheld net metering in its current form with full retail

compensation for exports and rejected utility requests to impose extremely high fixed and capacity charges. The Commission did allow the utilities to impose reasonable interconnection fees and some additional charges on customers, and will require such customers to take service on time-of-use rates. Further, municipal utilities are generally not subject to the same state laws and public commission oversight as compared to investor owned utilities and may make drastic and abrupt changes. As such, as we continue to expand into areas with municipal utilities, we may be subject to greater risk of regulatory uncertainty.

On October 12, 2015, the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission issued an order closing the Hawaiian Electric Company's net metering program to new participants and replaced this program with two new options for customers to interconnect to the utilities' power grids, neither of which provides for compensation for exports at retail electricity rates. Solar advocates have filed suit challenging this order and seeking to enjoin its effectiveness.

In late 2015, the Nevada Public Utilities Commission voted in favor of a plan which limits export compensation to net metering customers and imposes high monthly fees on such customers. This order greatly reduced the economic benefit to Nevada customers of residential solar. Solar advocates have filed suit challenging this order and a ballot initiative intended to restore net metering is underway. Several other states plan to revisit their net metering policies in the coming years.

Presently, the Arizona Corporation Commission is considering proposals to adjust the net metering credit that customers receive for energy generated from solar energy systems located on their roofs. The Arizona Corporation Commission is also considering a proposal from the Arizona Public Service Company to impose demand charges on residential customers. These proposals pose the risk of a reduced value proposition for residential solar in Arizona.

If and when net metering caps in certain jurisdictions are reached while they are still in effect, the value of the credit that customers receive for net metering is significantly reduced, utility rate structures are altered, or fees are imposed on net metering customers, future customers may be unable to recognize the same level of cost savings associated with net metering that current customers enjoy. The absence of favorable net metering policies or of net metering entirely, or the imposition of new charges that only or disproportionately impact customers that use net metering would significantly limit customer demand for our solar energy systems and the electricity they generate and could adversely impact our business, results of operations and future growth. For example, shortly after expanding our operations into Nevada, the state's primary electric utility reached its net metering cap. As a result of the net metering cap being reached, we suspended operations in Nevada pending revisions to the net metering available in the state. This change is not expected to have any future impact on our business due to the short duration that we were active in Nevada.

Failure of anticipated growth in solar energy system sales to materialize as planned could negatively impact our operating results and cash flows.

Beginning in late 2015, we began offering to customers in select markets the option to purchase solar energy systems. We have historically offered our solar energy systems through our standard power purchase agreements or through long-term leases. Selling solar energy systems allows us to enter markets, such as those that prohibit third-party ownership of distributed solar energy systems or that lack a favorable net metering policy. While solar energy system sales have represented a relatively small portion of our business, we expect it to continue to grow. Industry analysts have indicated that the number of customer-owned solar energy systems has increased significantly relative to third-party ownership in certain markets and that solar energy system sales are expected to account for a larger percentage of total residential solar installations in the future. It is not certain that we will successfully execute our strategy to increase sales of solar energy systems. If customer preferences or the residential solar energy market continue to shift toward solar energy system sales, and we are not successful in our efforts, we may lose market share which could have an adverse effect on our business, operating results and growth prospects. Additionally, sales of solar energy systems through third-party loans or cash sales require less financing from financial institutions and participants in the tax equity market. To the extent we are unsuccessful in our efforts to sell solar energy systems, our operating cash flows would be negatively affected, and if we were unable to secure additional financing, our business and growth prospects would be adversely affected.

Technical and regulatory limitations may significantly reduce our ability to sell electricity from our solar energy systems and retain employees in certain markets.

Technical and regulatory limits may curb our growth in certain key markets, which may also reduce our ability to retain employees in those markets. For example, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in promulgating the first form small generator interconnection procedures, recommended limiting customer-sited intermittent generation resources, such as our solar energy systems, to a certain percentage of peak load on a given electrical feeder circuit. Similar limits have been adopted by many states as a de facto standard and could constrain our ability to market to customers in certain geographic areas where the concentration of solar installations exceeds this limit. For example, Hawaiian electric utilities have adopted certain policies that limit distributed electricity generation in parts of their service territories. In the first half of 2014, Hawaii was the second largest market in which we operated as measured by total installations. However, despite legislative and regulatory actions to allow further distributed electricity penetration, these limitations constrained growth of distributed residential solar energy in Hawaii in the second half of

2014 and beyond, and Hawaii has become a less important market to us as a result; which in turn resulted in the loss of employees located in that market who were not willing to relocate. While a recent Hawaii Public Utilities Commission order seeks to streamline the interconnection process, and while our growth in other markets has more than offset the impact of these limitations in Hawaii, if we experienced similar or other limitations on the deployment of solar energy systems, our business, operating results and growth prospects could be materially adversely affected. Furthermore, in certain areas, we benefit from policies that allow for expedited or simplified procedures related to connecting solar energy systems to the power grid. If such procedures are changed or cease to be available, our ability to sell the electricity generated by solar energy systems we install may be adversely impacted. As adoption of solar distributed generation rises along with the commercial operation of utility scale solar generation in key markets such as California, the amount of solar energy being fed into the power grid will surpass the amount planned for relative to the amount of aggregate demand. Some traditional utilities claim that in less than five years, solar generation resources may reach a level capable of producing an over-generation situation, which may require some solar generation resources to be curtailed to maintain operation of the power grid. While the prospect of such curtailment is somewhat speculative, particularly in the residential sector, the adverse effects of such curtailment without compensation could adversely impact our business, results of operations and future growth.

We have incurred operating losses and may be unable to achieve or sustain profitability in the future.

We have incurred operating losses since our inception. We incurred net losses of \$253.3 million and \$197.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2015 and the nine months ended September 30, 2016. We expect to continue to incur net losses from operations as we finance our operations, expand our installation, engineering, administrative, sales and marketing staffs, and implement internal systems and infrastructure to support our growth. Failure to grow at a sufficient rate to support these investments in personnel, systems and infrastructure, have adversely impacted and in the future could adversely impact our business and results of operations. Our ability to achieve profitability depends on a number of factors, including:

- growing our customer base;
- finding investors willing to invest in our investment funds;
- maintaining and further lowering our cost of capital;
- reducing the time between system installation and interconnection to the power grid, which allows us to begin generating revenue;
- reducing the cost of components for our solar energy systems; and
- reducing our operating costs by optimizing our sales, design and installation processes and supply chain logistics.

Even if we do achieve profitability, we may be unable to sustain or increase our profitability in the future.

The vast majority of our business is conducted primarily using one channel, direct-selling.

Historically, our primary sales channel has been a direct sales model. We also sell to customers through our inside sales team but continue to find greatest success using our direct sales channel. We compete against companies with experience selling solar energy systems to customers through a number of distribution channels, including homebuilders, home improvement stores, large construction, electrical and roofing companies and other third parties and companies that access customers through relationships with third parties in addition to other direct-selling companies. Competitor sales volume through other channels is unknown. Our less diversified distribution channels may place us at a disadvantage with consumers who prefer to purchase products through these other distribution channels. We are also vulnerable to changes in laws related to direct sales and marketing that could impose additional limitations on unsolicited residential sales calls and may impose additional restrictions. If additional laws affecting direct sales and marketing are passed in the markets in which we operate, it would take time to train our sales force to comply with such laws, and we may be exposed to fines or other penalties for violations of such laws. If we fail to compete effectively through our direct-selling efforts or are not successful in developing other sales channels, our financial condition, results of operations and growth prospects could be adversely affected.

We are highly dependent on our ability to attract, train and retain an effective sales force.

The success of our direct-selling channel efforts depends upon the recruitment, retention and motivation of a large number of sales personnel to compensate for a high turnover rate among sales personnel, which is a common characteristic of a direct-selling business. In order to grow our business, we need to recruit, train and retain sales personnel on a continuing basis. Sales personnel are attracted to direct-selling by competitive earnings opportunities and direct-sellers typically compete for sales personnel by providing a more competitive earnings opportunity than that offered by the competition. Competitors devote substantial effort to determining the effectiveness of such incentives so that they can invest in incentives that are the most cost effective or produce the best return on incentive. For example, we have historically compensated our sales personnel on a commission basis, based on the size of the solar energy systems they sell. Some sales personnel may prefer a compensation structure that also includes a salary and equity incentive component. Since the second quarter of 2016, our overall sales representative headcount has decreased due in part to increased competition for sales talent in our industry. We may need to adjust our compensation model to include such components, and these adjustments could adversely impact our operating results

and financial performance.

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In addition to our sales compensation model, our ability to recruit, train and retain effective sales personnel could be harmed by additional factors, including:

- the residual impact of uncertainty associated with the termination of the SunEdison acquisition or our future as a standalone company;
- any adverse publicity regarding us, our solar energy systems, our distribution channel or our industry;
- lack of interest in, or the technical failure of, our solar energy systems;
- lack of a compelling product or income opportunity that generates interest for potential new sales personnel, or perception that other product or income opportunities are more attractive;
- any negative public perception of our sales personnel and direct-selling businesses in general;
- any regulatory actions or charges against us or others in our industry;
- general economic and business conditions; and
- potential saturation or maturity levels in a given market which could negatively impact our ability to attract and retain sales personnel in such market.

We are subject to significant competition for the recruitment of sales personnel from other direct-selling companies and from other companies that sell solar energy systems in particular. Regional and district managers of our sales personnel are instrumental in recruiting, retaining and motivating our sales personnel. When managers have elected to leave us and join other companies, the sales personnel they supervise have often left with them. We may experience increased attrition in our sales personnel in the future which may impact our results of operations and growth. The impact of such attrition could be particularly acute in those jurisdictions, such as California, where contractual non-competition agreements for service providers are not enforceable or subject to significant limitations.

It is therefore continually necessary to innovate and enhance our direct-selling and service model as well as to recruit and retain new sales personnel. If we are unable to do so, our business will be adversely affected.

We are not currently regulated as an electric utility under applicable law, but we may be subject to regulation as an electric utility in the future.

We are not regulated as a public utility in any of the markets in which we currently operate. As a result, we are not subject to the various federal, state and local standards, restrictions and regulatory requirements applicable to traditional utilities that operate transmission and distribution systems and that have an obligation to serve electric customers within a specified jurisdiction. Any federal, state, or local regulations that cause us to be treated as an electric utility, or to otherwise be subject to a similar regulatory regime of commission-approved operating tariffs, rate limitations, and related mandatory provisions, could place significant restrictions on our ability to operate our business and execute our business plan by prohibiting, restricting or otherwise regulating our sale of electricity. If we were subject to the same state or federal regulatory authorities as electric utilities in the United States or if new regulatory bodies were established to oversee our business in the United States, then our operating costs would materially increase.

Our business depends in part on the regulatory treatment of third-party owned solar energy systems.

Retail sales of electricity by non-utilities such as us face regulatory hurdles in some states and jurisdictions, including states and jurisdictions that we intend to enter where the laws and regulatory policies have not historically embraced competition to the service provided by the incumbent, vertically integrated electric utility. Some of the principal challenges pertain to whether non-customer owned systems qualify for the same levels of rebates or other non-tax incentives available for customer-owned solar energy systems, whether third-party owned systems are eligible at all for these incentives and whether third-party owned systems are eligible for net metering and the associated significant cost savings. Furthermore, in some states and utility territories third parties are limited in the way that they may deliver solar to their customers. In jurisdictions such as Arizona, South Carolina, Utah and Los Angeles, California,

laws have been interpreted to either prohibit the sale of electricity pursuant to our standard power purchase agreement or regulate entities making such sales, in some cases, such laws have led residential solar energy system providers to use leases in lieu of power purchase agreements. In other states, neither leases nor power purchase agreements are permissible or commercially feasible. Changes in law, reductions in, eliminations of or additional application requirements for, these benefits could reduce demand for our systems, adversely impact our access to capital and could cause us to increase the price we charge our customers for energy.

If the Internal Revenue Service or the U.S. Treasury Department makes a determination that the fair market value of our solar energy systems is materially lower than what we have reported in our fund tax returns, we may have to pay significant amounts to our investment funds, to our fund investors and/or the U.S. government. Such determinations could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and prospects.

We report in our fund tax returns and we and our fund investors claim the ITC based on the fair market value of our solar energy systems. Scrutiny by the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, with respect to fair market value determinations has increased industry-wide in recent years. The IRS recently commenced an audit of one of our investment funds. We are not aware of any other audits or results of audits related to our appraisals or fair market value determinations of any of our investment funds. If as part of an examination the IRS were to review the fair market value that we used to establish our basis for claiming ITCs and determine that the ITCs previously claimed should be reduced, we would owe certain of our investment funds or our fund investors an amount equal to 30% of the investor's share of the difference between the fair market value used to establish our basis for claiming ITCs and the adjusted fair market value determined by the IRS, plus any costs and expenses associated with a challenge to that fair market value, plus a gross up to pay for additional taxes. We could also be subject to tax liabilities, including interest and penalties, based on our share of claimed ITCs. To date, we have not been required to make such payments under any of our investment funds.

Our ability to provide solar energy systems to customers on an economically viable basis depends on our ability to finance these systems with fund investors who require particular tax and other benefits.

Substantially all of our solar energy systems installed to date have been eligible for ITCs or U.S. Treasury grants, as well as accelerated depreciation benefits. We have relied on, and will continue to rely on, financing structures that monetize a substantial portion of those benefits and provide financing for our solar energy systems. If, for any reason, we were unable to continue to monetize those benefits through these arrangements, we may be unable to provide solar energy systems for new customers and maintain solar energy systems for new and existing customers on an economically viable basis. The availability of this tax-advantaged financing depends upon many factors, including:

- our ability to compete with other renewable energy companies for the limited number of potential investment fund investors, each of which has limited funds and limited appetite for the tax benefits associated with these financings;
- the state of financial and credit markets;
- changes in the legal or tax risks associated with these financings; and
- non-renewal of these incentives or decreases in the associated benefits.

Solar energy system owners are currently allowed to claim the ITC that is equal to 30% of the system's eligible tax basis, which is generally the fair market value of the system. By statute, the ITC is scheduled to decrease to 26% for 2020, 22% for 2021 and 10% on January 1, 2022. Moreover, potential fund investors must remain satisfied that the structures we offer qualify for the tax benefits associated with solar energy systems available to these investors, which depends both on the investors' assessment of tax law and the absence of any unfavorable interpretations of that law. Changes in existing law and interpretations by the IRS and the courts could reduce the willingness of fund investors to invest in funds associated with these solar energy system investments. It is not certain that this type of financing will continue to be available to us. Alternatively, new investment fund structures or other financing mechanisms may become available, and if we are unable to take advantage of these fund structures and financing mechanisms it may place us at a competitive disadvantage. If, for any reason, we are unable to finance solar energy systems through tax-advantaged structures or if we are unable to realize or monetize depreciation benefits, or if we are otherwise unable to structure investment funds in ways that are both attractive to investors and allow us to provide desirable pricing to customers, we may no longer be able to provide solar energy systems to new customers on an economically viable basis. This would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Rising interest rates could adversely impact our business.

Rising interest rates could have an adverse impact on our business by increasing our cost of capital. The majority of our cash flows to date have been from customer contracts that have been partially monetized under various investment fund structures. One of the components of this monetization is the present value of the payment streams from the customers who enter into these contracts. If the rate of return required by the fund investor rises as a result of a rise in interest rates, the present value of the customer payment stream and the total value that we are able to derive from monetizing the payment stream will each be reduced. Interest rates are at historically low levels. It is likely that interest rates will rise in the future, which would cause our costs of capital to increase.

Our investment funds contain arrangements which provide for priority distributions to fund investors until they receive their targeted rates of return. In addition, under the terms of certain of our investment funds, we may be required to make payments to the fund investors if certain tax benefits that are allocated to such fund investors are not realized as expected. Our financial condition may be adversely impacted if a fund is required to make these priority distributions for a longer period than anticipated to achieve the fund investors' targeted rates of return or if we are required to make any tax-related payments.

Our investment funds contain terms that contractually require the investment funds to make priority distributions to the fund investor, to the extent cash is available, until it achieves its targeted rate of return. The amounts of potential future distributions under these arrangements depends on the amounts and timing of receipt of cash flows into the investment fund, almost all of which is generated from customer payments related to solar energy systems that have been previously purchased (or leased, as applicable) by such fund. If such cash flows are lower than expected, the priority distributions to the investor may continue for longer than initially anticipated. Additionally, certain of our investment funds require that, under certain circumstances, we forego distributions from the fund that we are otherwise contractually entitled to, or make capital contributions to the fund, so that such distributions owed to us, or additional capital contributions made by us, can be redirected to the fund investor such that it achieves the targeted return. For example, in October 2016, we paid a contractually agreed upon \$1.8 million capital distribution to reimburse a fund investor a portion of its capital contribution primarily due to a delay in solar energy systems being interconnected to the power grid and other factors.

Our fund investors also expect returns partially in the form of tax benefits and, to enable such returns, our investment funds contain terms that contractually require us to make payments to the funds that are then used to make payments to the fund investor in certain circumstances so that the fund investor receives value equivalent to the tax benefits it expected to receive when entering into the transaction. The amounts of potential tax payments under these arrangements depend on the tax benefits that accrue to such investors from the funds' activities.

Due to uncertainties associated with estimating the timing and amounts of these cash distributions and allocations of tax benefits to such investors, we cannot determine the potential maximum future impact on our cash flows or payments that we could have to make under these arrangements. We may agree to similar terms in the future if market conditions require it. Any significant payments that we may be required to make or distributions to us that are reduced or diverted as a result of these arrangements could adversely affect our financial condition.

We may incur substantially more debt or take other actions that could restrict our ability to pursue our business strategies.

In September 2014, we entered into an aggregation credit facility, which has subsequently been amended, pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate of \$375.0 million and, upon the satisfaction of certain conditions and the approval of the lenders, up to an aggregate of \$175.0 million in additional borrowings. In March 2015, we entered into a revolving credit facility pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate of \$150.0 million. In March 2016 we entered into a term loan facility pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$200.0 million. In August 2016, we entered into a term loan facility pursuant to which we may borrow up to an aggregate principal amount of \$313.0 million. These credit facilities and term loan facilities restrict our ability to dispose of assets, incur indebtedness, incur liens, pay dividends or make other distributions to holders of our capital stock, repurchase our capital stock, make specified investments or engage in transactions with our affiliates. In addition, we do not have full access to the cash and cash equivalents held in our investments funds until distributed per the terms of the arrangements. We and our subsidiaries may incur substantial additional debt in the future and any debt instrument we enter into in the future may contain similar, or more onerous, restrictions. These restrictions could inhibit our ability to pursue our business strategies. Furthermore, if we default on one of our debt instruments, and such event of default is not cured or waived, the lenders could terminate commitments to lend and cause all amounts outstanding

with respect to the debt to be due and payable immediately, which in turn could result in cross acceleration under other debt instruments. Our assets and cash flow may not be sufficient to fully repay borrowings under all of our outstanding debt instruments if some or all of these instruments are accelerated upon a default.

Furthermore, there is no assurance that we will be able to enter into new debt instruments on acceptable terms. If we are unable to satisfy financial covenants and other terms under existing or new instruments or obtain waivers or forbearance from our lenders or if we are unable to obtain refinancing or new financings for our working capital, equipment and other needs on acceptable terms if and when needed, our business would be adversely affected.

Our business is concentrated in certain markets, putting us at risk of region specific disruptions.

As of September 30, 2016, approximately 39% of our cumulative installations and 31% of our total offices were located in California. In addition, we expect future growth to occur in California, which could further concentrate our customer base and operational infrastructure. Accordingly, our business and results of operations are particularly susceptible to adverse economic, regulatory, political, weather and other conditions in California and in other markets that may become similarly concentrated.

Residential solar energy is an evolving market, which makes it difficult to evaluate our prospects.

The residential solar energy industry is constantly evolving, which makes it difficult to evaluate our prospects. We cannot be certain if historical growth rates reflect future opportunities or whether growth anticipated by us or industry analysts will be realized. Any future growth of the residential solar energy market and the success of our solar energy systems depend on many factors beyond our control, including recognition and acceptance of the residential solar energy market by consumers, the pricing of alternative sources of energy, a favorable regulatory environment, the continuation of expected tax benefits and other incentives and our ability to provide our solar energy systems cost-effectively. If the markets for residential solar energy do not develop at the rate we expect, our business may be adversely affected.

Additionally, due to our limited operating history, we do not have empirical evidence of the effect of our systems on the resale value of our customers' houses. Due to the length of our customer contracts, the system deployed on a customer's roof may be outdated prior to the expiration of the term of the customer contract reducing the likelihood of renewal of our contracts at the end of the 20-year term, and possibly increasing the occurrence of defaults. This could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow. As a result, our limited operating history may impair our ability to accurately forecast our future performance and to invest accordingly.

We have identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting relating to inadequate financial statement preparation and review procedures in connection with the preparation of our consolidated financial statements that resulted in the restatement of certain of our financial statements, and we may identify material weaknesses in the future.

In connection with the preparation, audits and interim reviews of our past consolidated financial statements, we and our independent registered public accounting firm identified a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting. Under standards established by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board of the United States, a material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis.

We previously reported a material weakness in internal control over financial reporting for the year ended December 31, 2014. This previously reported material weakness has not been fully remediated for the year ended December 31, 2015 or for the nine months ended September 30, 2016, and as a result, we continued to have deficiencies in our internal controls including those associated with the HLBV method of attributing net income or loss to non-controlling interests and redeemable non-controlling interests and with our financial statement close process.

The nature of our investment funds increases the complexity of our accounting for the allocation of net income (loss) between our stockholders and non-controlling interests under the HLBV method and the calculation of our tax provision. As we enter into additional investment funds, which may have contractual provisions different from those of our existing funds, the calculation under the HLBV method and the calculation of our tax provision could become increasingly complicated. This additional complexity could increase the chance that we experience additional errors in the future, particularly because we have a material weakness in internal controls. In addition, our need to devote our resources to addressing this complexity could delay or prolong our remediation efforts and thereby prolong the existence of the material weakness.

We have taken steps to remediate the underlying causes of the material weakness that was reported for the year ended December 31, 2014. We have hired a number of additional financial, accounting and tax personnel in addition to a director of internal audit to assist us in implementing and improving our existing internal controls and a chief information officer to assist us in improving our underlying information technology systems and to decrease our

reliance on manual processes. We engaged third-party consultants to provide support over our accounting and tax processes to assist us with our evaluation of complex technical accounting matters. We engaged consultants to advise us on making further improvements to our internal controls over financial reporting. We believe that these additional resources will enable us to broaden the scope and quality of our controls relating to the oversight and review of financial statements and our application of relevant accounting policies. Furthermore, we continue to implement and improve systems to automate certain financial reporting processes and to improve information accuracy. These remediation efforts are still in process and have not yet been completed. Because of this material weakness, there is heightened risk that a material misstatement of our annual or quarterly financial statements will not be prevented or detected.

The actions that we are taking are subject to ongoing senior management review as well as audit committee oversight. We are working diligently on this remediation process; however, we cannot estimate how long it will take to remediate this material weakness. In addition, the remediation steps we have taken, are taking and expect to take may not effectively remediate the material weakness, in which case our internal control over financial reporting would continue to be ineffective. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to complete our remedial actions successfully. Even if we are able to complete these actions successfully, these measures may not adequately address our material weakness. In addition, it is possible that we will discover additional material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting or that our existing material weakness will result in additional errors in or restatements of our financial statements.

If in future periods we determine that this material weakness has not been remediated or we identify other material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting, we will be unable to assert that our internal control over financial reporting is effective, which could result in the loss of investor confidence. In addition, to date, the audit of our consolidated financial statements by our independent registered public accounting firm has included a consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis of designing their audit procedures, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. When we cease to be an emerging growth company we will be required to have our independent registered accounting firm perform such an evaluation, and additional material weaknesses or other control deficiencies may be identified.

If we are unable to successfully remediate our current material weakness or avoid or remediate any future material weakness, our stock price may be adversely affected and we may be unable to maintain compliance with applicable stock exchange listing requirements.

Expansion into new markets could be costly and time-consuming. Historically, we have only provided our offerings to residential customers, which could put us at a disadvantage relative to companies who also compete in other markets.

We have historically only provided our offerings to residential customers. We compete with companies who sell solar energy systems in the commercial, industrial and government markets, in addition to the residential market. While we believe that in the future we could have opportunities to expand our operations into other markets, there are no assurances that our design and installation systems will work for non-residential customers or that we will be able to compete successfully with companies with historical presences in such markets or we may not realize the anticipated benefits of entering such markets, and entering new markets has numerous risks, including the following:

- incurring significant costs if we are required to adapt our current or develop new design and installation processes for use in non-residential applications;
 - diversion of our management and employees from our core residential business;
- difficulty adapting our current or developing new marketing strategies and sales channels to non-residential customers;
- inability to obtain key customers, brand recognition and market share and compete successfully with companies with historical presences in such markets; and
- inability to achieve the financial and strategic goals for such market.

If we choose to pursue opportunities in additional markets and are unable to successfully compete in such markets, our operating results and growth prospects could be materially adversely affected. Additionally, there is intense competition in the residential solar energy market in the markets in which we operate. As new entrants continue to enter into these markets, we may be unable to gain or maintain market share and we may be unable to compete with companies that earn revenue in both the residential market and non-residential markets.

We face competition from traditional regulated electric utilities, from less-regulated third party energy service providers and from new renewable energy companies.

The solar energy and renewable energy industries are both highly competitive and continually evolving as participants strive to distinguish themselves within their markets and compete with large traditional utilities. We believe that our primary competitors are the traditional utilities that supply electricity to our potential customers. Traditional utilities generally have substantially greater financial, technical, operational and other resources than we do. As a result, these competitors may be able to devote more resources to the research, development, promotion and sale of their products or respond more quickly to evolving industry standards and changes in market conditions than we can. Traditional utilities could also offer other value-added products or services that could help them to compete with us even if the cost of electricity they offer is higher than ours. In addition, a majority of utilities' sources of electricity is non-solar, which may allow utilities to sell electricity more cheaply than electricity generated by our solar energy systems.

We also compete with companies that are not regulated like traditional utilities but that have access to the traditional utility electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure pursuant to state and local pro-competitive and consumer choice policies. These energy service companies are able to offer customers electricity supply-only solutions that are competitive with our solar energy system options on both price and usage of renewable energy technology while avoiding the long-term agreements and physical installations that our current fund-financed business model requires. This may limit our ability to attract new customers, particularly those who wish to avoid long-term contracts or have an aesthetic or other objection to putting solar panels on their roofs.

We also compete with solar companies with business models that are similar to ours. In addition, we compete with solar companies in the downstream value chain of solar energy. For example, we face competition from purely finance driven organizations that acquire customers and then subcontract out the installation of solar energy systems, from installation businesses that seek financing from external parties, from large construction companies and utilities, and increasingly from sophisticated electrical and roofing companies. Some of these competitors specialize in the residential solar energy market, and some may provide energy at lower costs than we do. Additionally, some of our competitors may offer their products through sales channels that they have more fully developed, such as retail sales. Further, some of our competitors are integrating vertically in order to ensure supply and to control costs. Many of our competitors also have significant brand name recognition and have extensive knowledge of our target markets. For us to remain competitive, we must distinguish ourselves from our competitors by offering an integrated approach that successfully competes with each level of products and services offered by our competitors at various points in the value chain. If our competitors develop an integrated approach similar to ours including sales, financing, engineering, manufacturing, installation, maintenance and monitoring services, this will reduce our marketplace differentiation.

As the solar industry grows and evolves, we will also face new competitors who are not currently in the market. Our industry is characterized by low technological barriers to entry and well-capitalized companies could choose to enter the market and compete with us. Our failure to adapt to changing market conditions and to compete successfully with existing or new competitors will limit our growth and will have a material adverse effect on our business and prospects.

Developments in alternative technologies or improvements in distributed solar energy generation may materially adversely affect demand for our offerings.

Significant developments in alternative technologies, such as advances in other forms of distributed solar power generation, storage solutions such as batteries, the widespread use or adoption of fuel cells for residential or commercial properties or improvements in other forms of centralized power production may materially and adversely affect our business and prospects in ways we do not currently anticipate. Any failure by us to adopt new or enhanced technologies or processes, or to react to changes in existing technologies, could materially delay deployment of our solar energy systems, which could result in product obsolescence, the loss of competitiveness of our systems, decreased revenue and a loss of market share to competitors.

A failure to hire and retain a sufficient number of employees in key functions would constrain our growth and our ability to timely complete our customers' projects.

To support our growth, we need to hire, train, deploy, manage and retain a substantial number of skilled installers and electricians in the relevant markets where there is heightened or increasing demand for solar energy products. Competition for qualified personnel in our industry has increased substantially and we expect it to continue to do so, particularly for skilled electricians and other personnel involved in the installation of solar energy systems. We also compete with the homebuilding and construction industries for skilled labor. As these industries seek to hire additional workers, our cost of labor may increase. Companies with whom we compete to hire installers may offer compensation or incentive plans that certain installers may view as more favorable. We periodically assess the compensation plans

and policies for our service providers, including our installers and electricians, and, if deemed necessary, may decide to revise those plans and policies. Our installers and electricians may not react well to any such revisions, which in turn could adversely affect retention, motivation and productivity. Additionally, we continually monitor our workforce requirements in the markets in which we operate. Any workforce reductions in markets where sales volume does not support the number of installation and other personnel could in turn adversely affect retention, motivation and productivity.

Furthermore, trained installers are typically able to more efficiently install solar energy systems. Shortages of skilled labor could significantly delay installations or otherwise increase our costs. While we do not currently have any unionized employees, we have expanded, and may continue to expand, into areas such as the Northeast, where labor unions are more prevalent. The unionization of our labor force could also increase our labor costs. In addition, a significant portion of our business has been concentrated in states such as California, where market conditions are particularly favorable to distributed solar energy generation. We have experienced and may in the future experience greater than expected turnover in our installers in those jurisdictions which would adversely impact the geographic mix of new solar energy system installations.

Because we are a licensed electrical contractor in every jurisdiction in which we operate, we are required to employ licensed electricians. As we expand into new markets, we are required to hire and/or contract with seasoned licensed electricians in order for us to qualify for the requisite state and local licenses. Because of the high demand for these seasoned licensed electricians, these individuals currently or in the future may demand greater compensation. In addition, our inability to attract and retain these qualifying electricians may adversely impact our ability to continue operations in current markets or expand into new areas.

If we cannot meet our hiring, retention and efficiency goals, we may be unable to complete our customers' projects on time, in an acceptable manner or at all. Any significant failures in this regard would materially impair our growth, reputation, business and financial results. If we are required to pay higher compensation than we anticipate, these greater expenses may also adversely impact our financial results and the growth of our business.

We depend on a limited number of suppliers of solar energy system components and technologies to adequately meet anticipated demand for our solar energy systems. Due to the limited number of suppliers in our industry, the acquisition of any of these suppliers by a competitor or any shortage, delay, price change, imposition of tariffs or duties or other limitation in our ability to obtain components or technologies we use could result in sales and installation delays, cancellations and loss of market share.

We purchase solar panels, inverters and other system components from a limited number of suppliers, making us susceptible to quality issues, shortages and price changes. In 2015 and in the nine months ended September 30, 2016, Trina Solar Limited, Yingli Green Energy Americas, Inc. and JinkoSolar Holding Co., Ltd. accounted for a substantial majority of our solar photovoltaic module purchases and Enphase Energy, Inc. and SolarEdge Technologies Inc. accounted for substantially all of our inverter purchases. If we fail to develop, maintain and expand our relationships with these or other suppliers, our ability to adequately meet anticipated demand for our solar energy systems may be adversely affected, or we may only be able to offer our systems at higher costs or after delays. If one or more of the suppliers that we rely upon to meet anticipated demand ceases or reduces production due to its financial condition, acquisition by a competitor or otherwise, is unable to increase production as industry demand increases or is otherwise unable to allocate sufficient production to us, it may be difficult to quickly identify alternative suppliers or to qualify alternative products on commercially reasonable terms, and our ability to satisfy this demand may be adversely affected. There are a limited number of suppliers of solar energy system components and technologies. While we believe there are other sources of supply for these products available, transitioning to a new supplier may result in additional costs and delays in acquiring our solar products and deploying our systems. These issues could harm our business or financial performance.

There have also been periods of industry-wide shortages of key components, including solar panels, in times of rapid industry growth. The manufacturing infrastructure for some of these components has a long lead-time, requires significant capital investment and relies on the continued availability of key commodity materials, potentially resulting in an inability to meet demand for these components. The solar industry is currently experiencing rapid growth and, as a result, shortages of key components, including solar panels, may be more likely to occur, which in turn may result in price increases for such components. Even if industry-wide shortages do not occur, suppliers may decide to allocate key components with high demand or insufficient production capacity to more profitable customers, customers with long-term supply agreements or customers other than us and our supply of such components may be reduced as a result.

Recently, we have entered into multi-year agreements with certain of our major suppliers. These agreements are denominated in U.S. dollars. Since our revenue is also generated in U.S. dollars we are mostly insulated from currency fluctuations. However, since our suppliers often incur a significant amount of their costs by purchasing raw materials and generating operating expenses in foreign currencies, if the value of the U.S. dollar depreciates significantly or for a prolonged period of time against these other currencies this may cause our suppliers to raise the prices they charge

us, which could harm our financial results. Since we purchase almost all of the solar photovoltaic modules we use from China, we are particularly exposed to exchange rate risk from increases in the value of the Chinese Renminbi. In addition, the U.S. government has imposed tariffs on solar cells produced and assembled in China and Taiwan. These tariffs, and any tariffs or duties, or shortages, delays, price changes or other limitation in our ability to obtain components or technologies we use could limit our growth, cause cancellations or adversely affect our profitability, and result in loss of market share and damage to our brand.

Our operating results may fluctuate from quarter to quarter and year to year, which could make our future performance difficult to predict and could cause our operating results for a particular period to fall below expectations, resulting in a severe decline in the price of our common stock.

Our quarterly and annual operating results are difficult to predict and may fluctuate significantly in the future. We have experienced seasonal and quarterly fluctuations in the past. However, given that we are in a growing industry, the true extent of these fluctuations may have been masked by our historical growth rates and thus may not be readily apparent from our historical operating results and may be difficult to predict. For example, the amount of revenue we recognize in a given period from our customer contracts is dependent in part on the amount of energy generated by solar energy systems under such contracts. As a result, revenue derived from power purchase agreements is impacted by seasonally shorter daylight hours in winter months. In addition, our ability to install solar energy systems is impacted by weather, such as during the winter months in the Northeastern United States. Such delays can impact the timing of when we can install and begin to generate revenue from solar energy systems. As such, our past quarterly operating results may not be good indicators of future performance.

In addition to the other risks described in this “Risk Factors” section, the following factors could cause our operating results to fluctuate:

- the expiration or initiation of any rebates or incentives;
- significant fluctuations in customer demand for our offerings;
- our ability to complete installations and interconnect to the power grid in a timely manner;
- the availability and costs of suitable financing;
- the amount and timing of sales of SRECs;
- our ability to continue to expand our operations, and the amount and timing of expenditures related to this expansion;
- actual or anticipated changes in our growth rate relative to our competitors;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital-raising activities or commitments;
 - changes in our pricing policies or terms or those of our competitors, including traditional utilities; and
- actual or anticipated developments in our competitors’ businesses or the competitive landscape.

For these or other reasons, the results of any prior quarterly or annual periods should not be relied upon as indications of our future performance. In addition, our actual revenue, key operating metrics and other operating results in future periods may fall short of the expectations of investors and financial analysts, which could have an adverse effect on the trading price of our common stock.

Our business has benefited from the declining cost of solar panels, and our financial results may be harmed if the cost of solar panels increases in the future.

The declining cost of solar panels and the raw materials necessary to manufacture them has been a key driver in the price we charge for electricity and customer adoption of solar energy. Although industry experts indicate that solar panel and raw material prices will continue to decline, it is possible they will not decline at the same rate as they have over the past several years. In addition, while the solar panel market has recently seen an increase in supply, growth in the solar industry and the resulting increase in demand for solar panels and the raw materials necessary to manufacture them may put upward pressure on prices. These resulting prices could slow our growth and cause our financial results to suffer. In addition, in the past we have purchased virtually all of the solar panels used in our solar energy systems from manufacturers based in China which have benefited from favorable governmental policies by the Chinese government. If this governmental support were to decrease or be eliminated, our ability to purchase these products on competitive terms or to access specialized technologies from China could be restricted.

Even if this support were to continue, the U.S. government could impose additional tariffs on solar cells manufactured in China. In 2014, the U.S. government broadened its investigation of Chinese pricing practices in this area to include solar panels and modules produced in China containing solar cells manufactured in other countries. In July 2015, the U.S. government announced antidumping duties ranging from 9.67% to 238.95% on imports of the majority of solar panels made in China, and, in December 2014, rates ranging from 11.5% to 27.6% on imported solar cells made in Taiwan. Countervailing duties ranging from 15.43% to 49.8% for Chinese modules have also been announced, and in July 2015 were set at 20.94% for most Chinese modules. In January 2015, the antidumping duties were confirmed by a determination of the U.S. International Trade Commission that material harm to the U.S. solar industry had occurred. These combined tariffs would make such solar cells less competitively priced in the United States, and the Chinese and Taiwanese manufacturers may choose to limit the amount of solar equipment they sell into the United States. As a result, it may be easier for solar cell manufacturers located outside of China or Taiwan to increase the prices of the solar cells they sell into the United States. If we are required to pay higher prices, accept less favorable terms or purchase solar panels or other system components from alternative, higher-priced sources, our financial results will be adversely affected.

The residual value of our solar energy systems at the end of the associated term of the lease or power purchase agreement may be lower than projected today and adversely affect our financial performance and valuation.

We amortize the costs of our solar energy systems over a 30-year estimated useful life, which exceeds the period of the component warranties and the corresponding payment streams from our contracts with our customers. If we incur repair and maintenance costs on these systems after the warranties have expired, and if they then fail or malfunction, we will be liable for the expense of repairing these systems without a chance of recovery from our suppliers. We are also contractually obligated to remove, store and reinstall the solar energy systems for a nominal fee if customers need to replace or repair their roofs. The nominal fee is market standard; however, it may not cover our costs to remove, store and reinstall the solar energy systems. In addition, we typically bear the cost of removing the solar energy systems at the end of the term of the customer contract if the customer does not renew his or her contract at the end of its term. Furthermore, it is difficult to predict how future environmental regulations may affect the costs associated with the removal, disposal or recycling of our solar energy systems. If the residual value of the systems is less than we expect at the end of the customer contract, after giving effect to any associated removal and redeployment costs, we may be required to accelerate all or some of the remaining unamortized costs. This could materially impair our future operating results and estimated retained value.

We act as the licensed general contractor for our customers and are subject to risks associated with construction, cost overruns, delays, regulatory compliance and other contingencies, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

We are a licensed contractor in every market we service and we are responsible for every customer installation. We are the general contractor, electrician, construction manager and installer for all our solar energy systems. We may be liable to customers for any damage we cause to their home, belongings or property during the installation of our systems. For example, we penetrate our customers' roofs during the installation process and may incur liability for the failure to adequately weatherproof such penetrations following the completion of installation of solar energy systems. In addition, because the solar energy systems we deploy are high-voltage energy systems, we may incur liability for the failure to comply with electrical standards and manufacturer recommendations. Furthermore, prior to obtaining permission to operate our solar energy systems, the systems must pass various inspections. Any delay in passing, or inability to pass, such inspections, would adversely affect our results of operations. Because our profit on a particular installation is based in part on assumptions as to the cost of such project, cost overruns, delays or other execution issues may cause us to not achieve our expected results or cover our costs for that project.

In addition, the installation of solar energy systems is subject to oversight and regulation in accordance with national, state and local laws and ordinances relating to building, fire and electrical codes, safety, environmental protection, utility interconnection and metering, and related matters. We also rely on certain of our employees to maintain professional licenses in many of the jurisdictions in which we operate, and our failure to employ properly licensed personnel could adversely affect our licensing status in those jurisdictions. It is difficult and costly to track the requirements of every authority having jurisdiction over our operations and our solar energy systems. Any new government regulations or utility policies pertaining to our systems, or changes to existing government regulations or utility policies pertaining to our systems, may result in significant additional expenses to us and our customers and, as a result, could cause a significant reduction in demand for our systems.

Compliance with occupational safety and health requirements and best practices can be costly, and noncompliance with such requirements may result in potentially significant monetary penalties, operational delays and adverse publicity.

The installation of solar energy systems requires our employees to work at heights with complicated and potentially dangerous electrical systems and at potentially high temperatures. The evaluation and modification of buildings as part of the installation process requires our employees to work in locations that may contain potentially dangerous levels of asbestos, lead, mold or other materials known or believed to be hazardous to human health. We also maintain a fleet of over 800 trucks and other vehicles to support our installers and operations. There is substantial risk of serious injury or death if proper safety procedures are not followed. Our operations are subject to regulation under the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Act, or OSHA, the U.S. Department of Transportation, or DOT, and equivalent state laws. Changes to OSHA, DOT or state requirements, or stricter interpretation or enforcement of existing laws or regulations, could result in increased costs. If we fail to comply with applicable OSHA regulations, even if no work-related serious injury or death occurs, we may be subject to civil or criminal enforcement and be required to pay substantial penalties, incur significant capital expenditures or suspend or limit operations. While we have not experienced a high level of injuries to date, we could be exposed to increased liability in the future. In the past, we have had workplace accidents and received citations from OSHA regulators for alleged safety violations, resulting in fines. Any such accidents, citations, violations, injuries or failure to comply with industry best practices may subject us to adverse publicity, damage our reputation and competitive position and adversely affect our business.

Problems with product quality or performance may cause us to incur expenses, may lower the residual value of our solar energy systems and may damage our market reputation and adversely affect our financial results.

We agree to maintain the solar energy systems installed on our customers' homes in connection with a power purchase agreement or lease during the length of the term of our customer contracts, which is typically 20 years. We also agree to warranty and maintain the solar energy systems we sell to customers for a period of 10 years. We are exposed to any liabilities arising from the systems' failure to operate properly and are generally under an obligation to ensure that each system remains in good condition during the term of the agreement. As part of our operations and maintenance work, we provide a pass-through of the inverter and panel manufacturers' warranty coverage to our customers, which generally range from 10 to 25 years. One or more of these third-party manufacturers could cease operations and no longer honor these warranties, leaving us to fulfill these potential obligations to our customers or to our fund investors without underlying warranty coverage. We, either ourselves or through our investment funds, bear the cost of such major equipment. Even if the investment fund bears the direct expense of such replacement equipment, we could suffer financial losses associated with a loss of production from the solar energy systems.

Beginning in 2014, we began structuring some customer contracts as solar energy system leases. To be competitive in the market and to comply with the requirements of jurisdictions where we offer leases, our solar energy system leases contain a performance guarantee in favor of the lessee. Leases with performance guarantees require us to refund money to the lessee if the solar energy system fails to generate a stated minimum amount of electricity in a 12-month period. We may also suffer financial losses associated with such refunds if significant performance guarantee payments are triggered.

Our failure to accurately predict future liabilities related to material quality or performance expenses could result in unexpected volatility in our financial condition. Because of the limited operating history of our solar energy systems, compared to their long estimated useful life, we have been required to make assumptions and apply judgments regarding a number of factors, including our anticipated rate of warranty claims, and the durability, performance and reliability of our solar energy systems. We have made these assumptions based on the historic performance of similar systems or on accelerated life cycle testing. Our assumptions could prove to be materially different from the actual performance of our systems, causing us to incur substantial expense to repair or replace defective solar energy systems

in the future or to compensate customers for systems that do not meet their performance guarantees. Equipment defects, serial defects or operational deficiencies also would reduce our revenue from customer contracts because the customer payments under such agreements are dependent on system production or would require us to make refunds under performance guarantees. Any widespread product failures or operating deficiencies may damage our market reputation and adversely impact our financial results.

We are responsible for providing maintenance, repair and billing on solar energy systems that are owned or leased by our investment funds on a fixed fee basis, and our financial performance could be adversely affected if our cost of providing such services is higher than we project.

We typically provide a workmanship warranty for periods of five to 20 years to our investment funds for every system we sell to them. We are also generally contractually obligated to cover the cost of maintenance, repair and billing on any solar energy systems that we sell or lease to our investment funds. We are subject to a maintenance services agreement under which we are required to operate and maintain the system, and perform customer billing services for a fixed fee that is calculated to cover our future expected maintenance and servicing costs of the solar energy systems in each investment fund over the term of the lease or power purchase agreement with the covered customers. If our solar energy systems require an above-average amount of repairs or if the cost of repairing systems were higher than our estimate, we would need to perform such repairs without additional compensation. If our solar energy systems, a majority of which are located in California, are damaged in the event of a natural disaster beyond our control, such as an earthquake, tsunami or hurricane, losses could be outside the scope of insurance policies or exceed insurance policy limits, and we could incur unforeseen costs that could harm our business and financial condition. We may also incur significant costs for taking other actions in preparation for, or in reaction to, such events. When required to do so under the terms of a particular investment fund, we purchase property and business interruption insurance with industry standard coverage and limits approved by the investor's third-party insurance advisors to hedge against such risk, but such coverage may not cover our losses, and we have not acquired such coverage for all of our funds.

Product liability claims against us or accidents could result in adverse publicity and potentially significant monetary damages.

If one of our solar energy systems injured someone, we could be exposed to product liability claims. In addition, it is possible that our products could injure our customer or third parties, or that our products could cause property damage as a result of product malfunctions, defects, improper installation, fire or other causes. We rely on our general liability insurance to cover product liability claims. Any product liability claim we face could be expensive to defend and divert management's attention. The successful assertion of product liability claims against us could result in potentially significant monetary damages, penalties or fines, increase our insurance rates, subject us to adverse publicity, damage our reputation and competitive position and adversely affect sales of our systems and other products. In addition, product liability claims, injuries, defects or other problems experienced by other companies in the residential solar industry could lead to unfavorable market conditions to the industry as a whole, and may have an adverse effect on our ability to attract new customers, thus affecting our growth and financial performance.

Failure by our component suppliers to use ethical business practices and comply with applicable laws and regulations may adversely affect our business.

We do not control our suppliers or their business practices. Accordingly, we cannot guarantee that they follow ethical business practices such as fair wage practices and compliance with environmental, safety and other local laws. A lack of demonstrated compliance could lead us to seek alternative suppliers, which could increase our costs and result in delayed delivery of our products, product shortages or other disruptions of our operations. Violation of labor or other laws by our suppliers or the divergence of a supplier's labor or other practices from those generally accepted as ethical in the United States or other markets in which we do business could also attract negative publicity for us and harm our business.

Damage to our brand and reputation, or change or loss of use of our brand, could harm our business and results of operations.

We depend significantly on our reputation for high-quality products, best-in-class customer service and the brand name “Vivint Solar” to attract new customers and grow our business. If we fail to continue to deliver our solar energy systems within the planned timelines, if our offerings do not perform as anticipated or if we damage any of our customers’ properties or delay or cancel projects, our brand and reputation could be significantly impaired. Future technical improvements may allow us to offer lower prices or offer new technology to new customers; however, technical limitations in our current solar energy systems may prevent us from offering such lower prices or new technology to our existing customers. The inability of our current customers to benefit from technological improvements could cause our existing customers to lower the value they perceive our existing products offer and impair our brand and reputation.

We have focused particular attention on growing our direct sales force, leading us in some instances to take on candidates who we later determined did not meet our standards. In addition, given our direct sales business model and the sheer number of interactions our sales and other personnel have with customers and potential customers, it is inevitable that some customers’ and potential customers’ interactions with our company will be perceived as less than satisfactory. This has led to instances of customer complaints, some of which have affected our digital footprint on rating websites such as Yelp and SolarReviews. If we cannot manage our hiring and training processes to avoid or minimize to the extent possible, these issues, our reputation may be harmed and our ability to attract new customers would suffer.

Given our relationship with our sister company Vivint and the similarity in our names, customers may associate us with any problems experienced with Vivint, such as complaints with the Better Business Bureau. Because we have no control over Vivint, we may not be able to take remedial action to cure any issues Vivint has with its customers, and our brand and reputation may be harmed if we are mistaken for the same company.

In addition, if we were to no longer use, lose the right to continue to use, or if others use, the “Vivint Solar” brand, we could lose recognition in the marketplace among customers, suppliers and partners, which could affect our growth and financial performance, and would require financial and other investment, and management attention in new branding, which may not be as successful.

Marketplace confidence in our liquidity and long-term business prospects is important for building and maintaining our business.

Our financial condition, operating results and business prospects may suffer materially if we are unable to establish and maintain confidence about our liquidity and business prospects among consumers and within our industry. Our solar energy systems require ongoing maintenance and support. If we were to reduce operations, even years from now, buyers of our systems from years earlier might have difficulty in having us repair or service our systems, which remain our responsibility under the terms of our customer contracts. As a result, consumers may be less likely to purchase our solar energy systems now if they are uncertain that our business will succeed or that our operations will continue for many years. Similarly, suppliers and other third parties will be less likely to invest time and resources in developing business relationships with us if they are not convinced that our business will succeed. Accordingly, in order to build and maintain our business, we must maintain confidence among customers, suppliers and other parties in our liquidity and long-term business prospects. We may not succeed in our efforts to build this confidence.

If we fail to manage our recent and future growth effectively, we may be unable to execute our business plan, maintain high levels of customer service or adequately address competitive challenges.

We have experienced growth in recent periods with the cumulative capacity of our solar energy systems growing from 458.9 megawatts as of December 31, 2015 to 634.0 megawatts as of September 30, 2016, and we intend to continue to expand our business within existing markets and in a number of new locations in the future. This growth has placed, and any future growth may place, a significant strain on our management, operational and financial infrastructure. In particular, we will be required to expand, train and manage our growing employee base and scale and otherwise improve our IT infrastructure in tandem with that headcount growth. Our management will also be required to maintain and expand our relationships with customers, suppliers and other third parties and attract new customers, suppliers and financing, as well as manage multiple geographic locations.

In addition, our current and planned operations, personnel, IT and other systems and procedures might be inadequate to support our future growth and may require us to make additional unanticipated investments in our infrastructure. Our success and ability to further scale our business will depend, in part, on our ability to manage these changes in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

If we cannot manage our growth, we may be unable to meet our or industry analysts’ expectations regarding growth, opportunity and financial targets, take advantage of market opportunities, execute our business strategies or respond to competitive pressures. This could also result in declines in quality or customer satisfaction, increased costs, difficulties in introducing new offerings or other operational difficulties. Any failure to effectively manage growth could adversely impact our business and reputation.

We may not realize the anticipated benefits of past or future acquisitions, and integration of these acquisitions may disrupt our business and management.

We acquired Solmetric Corporation in January 2014 and in the future we may acquire additional companies, project pipelines, products or technologies or enter into joint ventures or other strategic initiatives. We may not realize the anticipated benefits of this acquisition or any other future acquisition, and any acquisition has numerous risks. These risks include the following:

- difficulty in assimilating the operations and personnel of the acquired company;
- difficulty in effectively integrating the acquired technologies or products with our current technologies;
- difficulty in maintaining controls, procedures and policies during the transition and integration;
- disruption of our ongoing business and distraction of our management and employees from other opportunities and challenges due to integration issues;
- difficulty integrating the acquired company's accounting, management information and other administrative systems;
- inability to retain key technical and managerial personnel of the acquired business;

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- inability to retain key customers, vendors and other business partners of the acquired business;
- inability to achieve the financial and strategic goals for the acquired and combined businesses;
- incurring acquisition-related costs or amortization costs for acquired intangible assets that could impact our operating results;
- potential failure of the due diligence processes to identify significant issues with product quality, intellectual property infringement and other legal and financial liabilities, among other things;
- potential inability to assert that internal controls over financial reporting are effective; and
- potential inability to obtain, or obtain in a timely manner, approvals from governmental authorities, which could delay or prevent such acquisitions.

Mergers and acquisitions of companies are inherently risky, and if we do not complete the integration of acquired businesses successfully and in a timely manner, we may not realize the anticipated benefits of the acquisitions to the extent anticipated, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

The loss of one or more members of our senior management or key employees may adversely affect our ability to implement our strategy.

We are highly dependent on the efforts and abilities of the principal members of our senior management team, and the loss of one or more key executives could have a negative impact on our business. On May 2, 2016, our board of directors accepted the resignation of Greg Butterfield as our chief executive officer and president and appointed David Bywater as interim chief executive officer. As a result of this change and the subsequent departures of additional senior management, we may experience disruption in our business. No assurances can be made about the impact that this management change or other recent management changes will have on our company nor our ability to successfully identify and recruit a permanent chief executive officer.

We also depend on our ability to retain and motivate key employees and attract qualified new employees. No assurances can be made about the effect our recent management change will have on employee morale, or our ability to retain key employees. None of our key executives are bound by employment agreements for any specific term and we do not maintain key person life insurance policies on any of our executive officers. In the year ended December 31, 2015, one-third of the outstanding options to purchase shares of our common stock granted to our key executives and other employees under our 2013 Omnibus Incentive Plan vested. In addition, one-third of the options remained outstanding and will vest annually over three years, or immediately if 313 Acquisition LLC receives a return on its invested capital at a pre-established threshold. As a result, the retention incentives associated with these options could lapse for all employees holding these options under our 2013 Omnibus Incentive Plan at the same time. This decrease in retention incentive could cause significant turnover after these options vest. We may be unable to replace key members of our management team and key employees if we lose their services. Integrating new employees into our team could prove disruptive to our operations, require substantial resources and management attention and ultimately prove unsuccessful. An inability to attract and retain sufficient managerial personnel who have critical industry experience and relationships could limit or delay our strategic efforts, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

The requirements of being a public company may strain our resources, divert management's attention and affect our ability to attract and retain qualified board members and officers.

As a public company, we are subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, the listing requirements of the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, and other applicable securities rules and regulations. Compliance with these rules and regulations has increased our legal and financial compliance costs, made some activities more difficult, time-consuming or costly and increased demand on our systems and resources. The Exchange Act requires, among other things, that we file annual, quarterly and current reports with respect to our business and operating results and maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting. To maintain and

improve our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting to meet this standard, significant resources and management oversight are required. As a result, management's attention may be diverted from other business concerns which could harm our business and operating results. If in the future, we or our independent registered public accounting firm identify deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting that are deemed to be material weaknesses, the market price of our stock could decline and we could be subject to sanctions or investigations by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, or other regulatory authorities, which would require additional financial and management resources.

Being a public company has also made it more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance, and in the future, we may be required to accept reduced coverage or incur substantially higher costs to continue coverage. These factors could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified executive officers and members of our board of directors, particularly to serve on our audit committee and compensation committee.

We may be subject to intellectual property rights claims by third parties, which are extremely costly to defend, could require us to pay significant damages and could limit our ability to use certain technologies.

Third parties, including our competitors, may own patents or other intellectual property rights that cover aspects of our technology or business methods. Such parties may claim we have misappropriated, misused, violated or infringed third party intellectual property rights, and, if we gain greater recognition in the market, we face a higher risk of being the subject of claims that we have violated others' intellectual property rights. Any claim that we violate a third party's intellectual property rights, whether with or without merit, could be time-consuming, expensive to settle or litigate and could divert our management's attention and other resources. If we do not successfully settle or defend an intellectual property claim, we could be liable for significant monetary damages and could be prohibited from continuing to use certain technology, business methods, content or brands. To avoid a prohibition, we could seek a license from third parties, which could require us to pay significant royalties, increasing our operating expenses. If a license is not available at all or not available on reasonable terms, we may be required to develop or license a non-violating alternative, either of which could require significant effort and expense. If we cannot license or develop a non-violating alternative, we would be forced to limit or stop sales of our offerings and may be unable to effectively compete. Any of these results would adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. To deter other companies from making intellectual property claims against us or to gain leverage in settlement negotiations, we may be forced to significantly increase the size of our intellectual property portfolio through internal efforts and acquisitions from third parties, both of which could require significant expenditures. However, a robust intellectual property portfolio may provide little or no deterrence, particularly for patent holding companies or other patent owners that have no relevant product revenues.

We use "open source" software in our solutions, which may restrict how we distribute our offerings, require that we release the source code of certain software subject to open source licenses or subject us to possible litigation or other actions that could adversely affect our business.

We currently use in our solutions, and expect to continue to use in the future, software that is licensed under so-called "open source," "free" or other similar licenses. Open source software is made available to the general public on an "as-is" basis under the terms of a non-negotiable license. We currently combine our proprietary software with open source software but not in a manner that we believe requires the release of the source code of our proprietary software to the public. We do not plan to integrate our proprietary software with open source software in ways that would require the release of the source code of our proprietary software to the public, however, our use and distribution of open source software may entail greater risks than use of third-party commercial software. Open source licensors generally do not provide warranties or other contractual protections regarding infringement claims or the quality of the code. In addition, if we combine our proprietary software with open source software in a certain manner, we could, under certain open source licenses, be required to release or remove the source code of our proprietary software to the public. We may also face claims alleging noncompliance with open source license terms or infringement or misappropriation of proprietary software. These claims could result in litigation, require us to purchase a costly license or remove the software. In addition, if the license terms for open source software that we use change, we may be forced to re-engineer our solutions, incur additional costs or discontinue the sale of our offerings if re-engineering could not be accomplished on a timely basis. Although we monitor our use of open source software to avoid subjecting our offerings to unintended conditions, few courts have interpreted open source licenses, and there is a risk that these licenses could be construed in a way that could impose unanticipated conditions or restrictions on our ability to commercialize our offerings. We cannot guarantee that we have incorporated open source software in our software in a manner that will not subject us to liability, or in a manner that is consistent with our current policies and procedures.

The installation and operation of solar energy systems depends heavily on suitable solar and meteorological conditions. If meteorological conditions are unexpectedly unfavorable, the electricity production from our solar

energy systems may be substantially below our expectations and our ability to timely deploy new systems may be adversely impacted.

The energy produced and revenue and cash receipts generated by a solar energy system depend on suitable solar, atmospheric and weather conditions, all of which are beyond our control. Furthermore, components of our systems, such as panels and inverters, could be damaged by severe weather, such as hailstorms or lightning. Although we maintain insurance to cover for many such casualty events, our investment funds would be obligated to bear the expense of repairing the damaged solar energy systems, sometimes subject to limitations based on our ability to successfully make warranty claims. Our economic model and projected returns on our systems require us to achieve certain production results from our systems and, in some cases, we guarantee these results for both our consumers and our investors. If the systems underperform for any reason, our financial results could suffer. Sustained unfavorable weather also could delay our installation of solar energy systems, leading to increased expenses and decreased revenue and cash receipts in the relevant periods. We have experienced seasonal fluctuations in our operations. For example, the amount of revenue we recognize in a given period from power purchase agreements is dependent in part on the amount of energy generated by solar energy systems under such contracts. As a result, operating leases and incentives revenue is impacted by seasonally shorter daylight hours in winter months. In addition, our ability to install solar energy systems is impacted by weather. For example, we have limited ability to install solar energy systems during the winter months in the Northeastern United States. Such delays can impact the timing of when we can install and begin to generate revenue from solar energy systems. However, given that we are in a rapidly

growing industry, the true extent of these fluctuations may have been masked by our historical growth rates and thus may not be readily apparent from our historical operating results and may be difficult to predict. As such, our historical operating results may not be indicative of future performance. Furthermore, weather patterns could change, making it harder to predict the average annual amount of sunlight striking each location where we install a solar energy system. This could make our solar energy systems less economical overall or make individual systems less economical. Any of these events or conditions could harm our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Disruptions to our solar monitoring systems could negatively impact our revenues and increase our expenses.

Our ability to accurately charge our customers for the energy produced by our solar energy systems depends on customers maintaining a broadband internet connection so that we may receive data regarding solar energy systems production from their home networks. We could incur significant expenses or disruptions of our operations in connection with failures of our solar monitoring systems, including failures of our customers' home networks that would prevent us from accurately monitoring solar energy production. In addition, sophisticated hardware and operating system software and applications that we procure from third parties may contain defects in design or manufacture, including "bugs" and other problems that could unexpectedly interfere with the operation of our systems. The costs to us to eliminate or alleviate viruses and bugs, or any problems associated with failures of our customers' home networks could be significant, and the efforts to address these problems could result in interruptions, delays or cessation of service that may impede our sales, distribution or other critical functions. We have in the past experienced periods where some of our customers' networks have been unavailable and, as a result, we have been forced to estimate the production of their solar energy systems. Such estimates may prove inaccurate and could cause us to underestimate the power being generated by our solar energy systems and undercharge our customers, thereby harming our results of operations.

We are exposed to the credit risk of our customers.

Our solar energy customers primarily purchase energy or lease solar energy systems from us pursuant to one of two types of long-term contracts: a power purchase agreement or a lease. The power purchase agreement and lease terms are typically for 20 years, and require the customer to make monthly payments to us. Accordingly, we are subject to the credit risk of our customers. As of September 30, 2016, the average FICO score of our customers was approximately 760. However, as we grow our business, the risk of customer defaults could increase. Our reserve for this exposure is estimated to be \$1.6 million as of September 30, 2016, and our future exposure may exceed the amount of such reserves.

A failure to comply with laws and regulations relating to our interactions with current or prospective residential customers could result in negative publicity, claims, investigations and litigation, and adversely affect our financial performance.

Our business substantially focuses on contracts and transactions with residential customers. We must comply with numerous federal, state and local laws and regulations that govern matters relating to our interactions with residential consumers, including those pertaining to privacy and data security, consumer financial and credit transactions, home improvement contracts, warranties, door-to-door solicitation as well as specific regulations pertaining to solar installations. These laws and regulations are dynamic and subject to potentially differing interpretations, and various federal, state and local legislative and regulatory bodies may initiate investigations, expand current laws or regulations, or enact new laws and regulations, regarding these matters. Changes in these laws or regulations or their interpretation could dramatically affect how we do business, acquire customers, and manage and use information we collect from and about current and prospective customers and the costs associated therewith.

For example, Arizona recently enacted statutes that require increased disclosures and acknowledgements in any agreement governing the financing, sale or lease of distributed energy systems, such as our solar energy systems. S.B. 1465, which took effect on December 31, 2015, required us to amend the standard legal-form lease we provide customers in Arizona to, among other things, include an acknowledgement by the customer of any restrictions on the ability to transfer ownership of the solar energy system or underlying property and provide contact information for any party that has the right to review or approve such a transfer. S.B. 1417, which took effect on August 6, 2016, requires, among other things, that we add additional customer acknowledgments of disclosures that already appear in our customer agreements (e.g., the customer's right to cancel within three business days, the description of major solar energy system components, and certain payment details). Legislation proposed in California would require similar additional disclosures and potential new regulation of our industry.

We strive to comply with all applicable laws and regulations relating to our interactions with residential customers. It is possible, however, that these requirements may be interpreted and applied in a manner that is inconsistent from one jurisdiction to another and may conflict with other rules or our practices. For example, members of the U.S. House of Representatives have sent letters to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, or CFPB, and the Federal Trade Commission, or FTC, requesting that these agencies investigate the sales practices of companies providing solar energy system leases to residential consumers. Earlier this year, the FTC held a public workshop on competition and consumer protection issues relating to the residential solar industry, and we perceive the potential for additional regulatory scrutiny of the industry. While we believe our standard sales practices and policies comply with all applicable laws and regulations, if the CFPB or FTC or other regulators or agencies were to initiate an investigation against us or enact regulations relating to the marketing of solar leases to residential consumers, responding to such investigation or complying with such regulations could require us to modify our operations and incur significant additional expenses, which could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations or could reduce the number of our potential customers.

Additionally, we cannot ensure that our sales force will comply with our standard practices and policies, and any such non-compliance which violates applicable laws or regulations could also expose us to claims, proceedings, litigation, investigations, and/or enforcement actions by private parties and regulatory authorities, as well as substantial fines and negative publicity, each of which may materially and adversely affect our business. We have incurred, and will continue to incur, significant expenses to comply with such laws and regulations.

Any unauthorized access to, or disclosure or theft of personal information we gather, store or use could harm our reputation and subject us to claims or litigation.

We receive, store and use personal information of our customers, including names, addresses, e-mail addresses, credit information and other housing and energy use information. We also store and use personal information of our employees. In addition, we currently utilize certain shared information and technology systems with Vivint. We take certain steps in an effort to protect the security, integrity and confidentiality of the personal information we collect, store or transmit, but there is no guarantee that inadvertent or unauthorized use or disclosure will not occur or that third parties will not gain unauthorized access to this information despite our efforts. Because techniques used to obtain unauthorized access or sabotage systems change frequently and generally are not identified until they are launched against a target, we and our suppliers or vendors, including Vivint, may be unable to anticipate these techniques or to implement adequate preventative or mitigation measures. In addition, due to a potential time lapse between when a sales representative leaves us and when we are made aware of the separation, sales representatives may have continued access to our customers' information for a period when they should not.

Unauthorized use or disclosure of, or access to, any personal information maintained by us or on our behalf, whether through breach of our systems, breach of the systems of our suppliers or vendors, including Vivint, by an unauthorized party, or through employee or contractor error, theft or misuse, or otherwise, could harm our business. If any such unauthorized use or disclosure of, or access to, such personal information were to occur, our operations could be seriously disrupted and we could be subject to demands, claims and litigation by private parties, and investigations, related actions, and penalties by regulatory authorities. In addition, we could incur significant costs in notifying affected persons and entities and otherwise complying with the multitude of federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to the unauthorized access to, or use or disclosure of, personal information. Finally, any perceived or actual unauthorized access to, or use or disclosure of, such information could harm our reputation, substantially impair our ability to attract and retain customers and have an adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are involved, and may become involved in the future, in legal proceedings that, if adversely adjudicated or settled, could adversely affect our financial results.

We are, and may in the future become, party to litigation. For examples, see the section captioned “Item 1. Legal Proceedings.” While we intend to defend against these actions vigorously, the ultimate outcomes of these cases are presently not determinable as they are in a preliminary phase. In general, litigation claims can be expensive and time consuming to bring or defend against, may result in the diversion of management attention and resources from our business and business goals and could result in settlements or damages that could significantly affect financial results and the conduct of our business. It is not possible to predict the final resolution of the litigation to which we currently are or may in the future become party, and the impact of certain of these matters on our business, prospects, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and cash flows.

Risks Related to our Relationship with Vivint

Vivint provides us with certain information technology support for our business. If Vivint fails to perform its obligations to us or if we do not find appropriate replacement services, we may be unable to perform these services or implement substitute arrangements on a timely and cost-effective basis on terms favorable to us.

We have historically relied on the technical support of Vivint to run our business. Some of the Vivint resources we are using include information technology and infrastructure and certain other services. The implementation of new software support systems requires significant management time, support and cost, and there are inherent risks associated with implementing, developing, improving and expanding our core systems. We cannot be sure that these systems will be fully or effectively implemented on a timely basis, if at all. If we do not successfully implement these systems, our operations may be disrupted and our operating results could be harmed. In addition, the new systems may not operate as we expect them to, and we may be required to expend significant resources to correct problems or find alternative sources for performing these functions.

In order to successfully transition to our own systems and operate as a standalone business, we entered into various agreements with Vivint in connection with our public offering. These include a master framework agreement providing the overall terms of the relationship and a transition services agreement detailing various information technology services that Vivint will provide. Vivint will provide each service until we agree that support from Vivint is no longer required for that service. The information technology services provided under the transition services agreement may not be sufficient to meet our needs and we may not be able to replace these services at favorable costs and on favorable terms, if at all. Any failure or significant downtime in our own financial or administrative systems or in Vivint's financial or administrative systems during the transition period and any difficulty in separating our information technology services from Vivint's information technology services and integrating newly developed or acquired information technology services into our business could result in unexpected costs, impact our results or prevent us from paying our suppliers and performing other technical, administrative and information technology services on a timely basis and could materially harm our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Our inability to resolve any disputes that arise between us and Vivint with respect to our past and ongoing relationships may adversely affect our financial results, and such disputes may also result in claims for indemnification.

Disputes may arise between Vivint and us in a number of areas relating to our past and ongoing relationships, including the following:

- intellectual property, labor, tax, employee benefits, indemnification and other matters arising from our separation from Vivint;
- employee retention and recruiting;
- our ability to use, modify and enhance the intellectual property that we have licensed from Vivint;
- business combinations involving us;
- pricing for shared and transitional services;
- exclusivity arrangements;
- the nature, quality and pricing of products and services Vivint agrees to provide to us; and
- business opportunities that may be attractive to both Vivint and us.

We have entered into certain agreements with Vivint. Pursuant to the terms of the Non-Competition Agreement we have entered into with Vivint, we and Vivint each define our areas of business and our competitors, and agree not to directly or indirectly engage in the other's business for three years. This agreement may limit our ability to pursue attractive opportunities that we may have otherwise pursued.

Additionally, this agreement prohibits, for a period of five years, either Vivint or us from soliciting for employment any member of the other's executive or senior management team, or any of the other's employees who primarily manage sales, installation or services of the other's products and services. The commitment not to solicit each other's employees lasts for 180 days after such employee finishes employment with us or Vivint. Historically, we have recruited a majority of our sales personnel from Vivint. This agreement may require us to obtain personnel from other sources, and may limit our ability to continue scaling our business if we are unable to do so. Notwithstanding the above, a number of sales representatives work for both Vivint and us. To the extent there is any confusion concerning the relationship between us and Vivint with respect to the products and services we offer and the products and services of Vivint, such sales representatives could expose us to increased claims, proceedings, litigation and investigations by consumers and regulatory authorities. In addition, having sales representatives who work for both Vivint and us could distract such sales representatives, impact the effectiveness of our sales force, and potentially increase the turnover of our existing sales representatives who may feel displaced by the addition of Vivint sales representatives to our sales force.

Pursuant to the terms of the Marketing and Customer Relations Agreement we have entered into with Vivint, we and Vivint are required to compensate one another for sales leads that result in sales. Vivint may direct sales leads to other solar energy companies in markets in which we have not entered. However, once we enter a market, Vivint must exclusively direct to us all leads for customers and potential customers with an interest in solar energy. Vivint's ability to sell leads to other solar energy providers in markets where we are not currently operating may adversely affect our ability to scale rapidly if we subsequently enter into such market as many of Vivint's customers with solar energy inclinations may have already been referred to another company by the time we enter into such market. Additionally, even in markets in which we currently operate, there can be no assurances regarding how many leads Vivint will be able to generate, or that such leads will successfully result in a signed power purchase agreement, lease or solar energy system sale.

We may not be able to resolve any potential conflicts relating to these agreements or otherwise, and even if we do, the resolution may be less favorable than if we were dealing with an unaffiliated party. In addition, we have indemnification obligations under the intercompany services agreements we entered into with Vivint, and disputes between us and Vivint may result in claims for indemnification. However, we do not currently expect that these indemnification obligations will materially affect our potential liability compared to what it would be if we did not enter into these agreements with Vivint.

Risks Related to Our Common Stock

The price of our common stock may be volatile, and the value of your investment could decline.

The trading price of our common stock may be highly volatile. For example, from our initial public offering to September 30, 2016, the closing price of our common stock has ranged from a high of \$16.01 to a low of \$2.22. Our stock price could continue to be subject to wide fluctuations in response to various factors, some of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

- our financial condition and the availability and terms of future financing;
- changes in laws or regulations applicable to our industry or offerings;
- additions or departures of key personnel;
- the failure of securities analysts to cover our common stock;
- actual or anticipated changes in expectations regarding our performance by investors or securities analysts;
- securities litigation involving us;
- price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market;
- volatility in the market price and trading volume of companies in our industry or companies that investors consider comparable;
- share price and volume fluctuations attributable to inconsistent trading volume levels of our shares;
- our ability to protect our intellectual property and other proprietary rights;
- sales of our common stock by us or our stockholders;
- the expiration of contractual lock-up agreements;
- litigation or disputes involving us, our industry or both;
- major catastrophic events;
- general economic and market conditions;
- changes in senior management such as the recent resignation of our former chief executive officer and appointment of an interim chief executive officer; and
- potential acquisitions.

Further, the stock markets have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected and continue to affect the market prices of equity securities of many companies. These fluctuations often have been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. In addition, the stock prices of many renewable

energy companies have experienced wide fluctuations that have often been unrelated to the operating performance of those companies. These broad market and industry fluctuations, as well as general economic, political and market conditions such as recessions, interest rate changes or international currency fluctuations, may cause the market price of our common stock to decline. If the market price of our common stock decreases, investors may not realize any return on investment and may lose some or all of their investments.

In the past, companies that have experienced volatility in the market price of their stock have been subject to securities class action litigation. We are currently subject to two putative class action lawsuits, subsequently consolidated into an amended complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, alleging certain misrepresentations by us in connection with our initial public offering. We may become the target of additional securities litigation in the future, which could result in substantial costs and divert our management's attention from other business concerns, which could seriously harm our business.

As an emerging growth company within the meaning of the Securities Act, we will utilize certain modified disclosure requirements, and we cannot be certain if these reduced requirements will make our common stock less attractive to investors.

We are an emerging growth company, and, for as long as we continue to be an emerging growth company, we may choose to take advantage of exemptions from various reporting requirements applicable to other public companies but not to "emerging growth companies" including, but not limited to, not being required to have our independent registered public accounting firm audit our internal control over financial reporting under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, reduced disclosure obligations regarding executive compensation in our periodic reports and proxy statements, and exemptions from the requirements of holding a nonbinding advisory vote on executive compensation and stockholder approval of any golden parachute payments not previously approved. We have utilized, and we plan in future filings with the SEC to continue to utilize, the modified disclosure requirements available to emerging growth companies. As a result, our stockholders may not have access to certain information they may deem important.

In addition, Section 107 of the JOBS Act also provides that an emerging growth company can utilize the extended transition period provided in Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act for complying with new or revised accounting standards. Thus, an emerging growth company can delay the adoption of certain accounting standards until those standards would otherwise apply to private companies. We have irrevocably elected not to avail ourselves of this exemption from new or revised accounting standards and, therefore, we will be subject to the same new or revised accounting standards as other public companies that are not "emerging growth companies."

We could remain an "emerging growth company" for up to five years, or until the earliest of (1) the last day of the first fiscal year in which our annual gross revenue exceeds \$1 billion, (2) the date that we become a "large accelerated filer" as defined in Rule 12b-2 under the Exchange Act, which would occur if we become a seasoned issuer and the market value of our common stock that is held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of the last business day of our most recently completed second fiscal quarter or (3) the date on which we have issued more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt during the preceding three-year period.

Our stock price could decline due to the large number of outstanding shares of our common stock eligible for future sale.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market, or the perception that these sales could occur, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. These sales could also make it more difficult for us to sell equity or equity-related securities in the future at a time and price that we deem appropriate.

As of September 30, 2016, we had 109.9 million outstanding shares of common stock. These shares may be sold in the public market in the United States, subject to prior registration in the United States, if required, or reliance upon an exemption from U.S. registration, including, in the case of shares held by affiliates or control persons, compliance with the volume restrictions of Rule 144.

In addition, 1.1 million shares of our common stock reserved for future issuance under our Long-Term Incentive Plan were issued, vested and became immediately tradable without restriction. Approximately 2.7 million additional shares

of our common stock reserved for future issuance under our Long-Term Incentive Plan will issue, vest and be immediately tradable without restriction on the date that The Blackstone Group L.P., our sponsor, and its affiliates achieve specified returns on their invested capital. For more information regarding the shares reserved under our Long-Term Incentive Plan see the “Equity Compensation Plans” footnote in our annual report on form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Further, options to purchase 6.2 million shares of common stock remained outstanding as of September 30, 2016, with 2.0 million of those shares being vested and exercisable as of September 30, 2016. The remaining 4.2 million shares that are not yet vested are subject to ratable time-based vesting over three to five years. All shares subject to time-based vesting will become immediately tradable once vested. As of September 30, 2016, 7.8 million restricted stock units remained outstanding, of which 6.0 million are subject to ratable time-based vesting over one to four years and 1.8 million vest over one to four years subject to individual participants’ achievement of quarterly or annual performance goals.

Stockholders owning an aggregate of 84.7 million shares of our common stock are entitled, under contracts providing for registration rights, to require us to register shares of our common stock owned by them for public sale in the United States, subject to the restrictions of Rule 144. On October 1, 2014, we filed a registration statement on Form S-8 to register 22.9 million shares previously issued or reserved for future issuance under our equity compensation plans and agreements. Upon effectiveness of this registration statement, subject to the satisfaction of applicable exercise periods, the shares of common stock issued upon exercise of outstanding options will be available for immediate resale in the United States in the open market. Sales of our common stock as restrictions end or pursuant to registration rights may make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at a time and at a price that we deem appropriate. These sales also could cause our stock price to fall and make it more difficult for investors to sell shares of our common stock.

Our sponsor and its affiliates control us and their interests may conflict with ours or investors' in the future.

As of September 30, 2016, 313 Acquisition LLC, which is controlled by our sponsor and its affiliates, beneficially owned approximately 75% of our common stock. Moreover, under our organizational documents and the stockholders agreement with 313 Acquisition LLC, for so long as our existing owners and their affiliates retain significant ownership of us, we will agree to nominate to our board individuals designated by our sponsor, whom we refer to as the sponsor directors. In addition, for so long as 313 Acquisition LLC continues to own shares representing a majority of the total voting power, we will agree to nominate to our board individuals appointed by Summit Partners and Todd Pedersen. Even when our sponsor and its affiliates and certain of its co-investors cease to own shares of our stock representing a majority of the total voting power, for so long as our sponsor and its affiliates continue to own a significant percentage of our stock our sponsor will still be able to significantly influence the composition of our board of directors and the approval of actions requiring stockholder approval. In addition, under the stockholders agreement, affiliates of our sponsor will have consent rights with respect to certain actions involving our company, provided a certain aggregate ownership threshold is maintained collectively by our sponsor and its affiliates, together with Summit Partners, Todd Pedersen and Alex Dunn and their respective affiliates. Accordingly, for such period of time, our sponsor and certain of its co-investors will have significant influence with respect to our management, business plans and policies, including the appointment and removal of our officers. In particular, for so long as our sponsor and its affiliates continue to own a significant percentage of our stock, our sponsor will be able to cause or prevent a change of control of our company or a change in the composition of our board of directors and could preclude any unsolicited acquisition of our company. The concentration of ownership could deprive investors of an opportunity to receive a premium for shares of common stock as part of a sale of our company and ultimately might affect the market price of our common stock.

Our sponsor and its affiliates engage in a broad spectrum of activities, including investments in the energy sector. In the ordinary course of their business activities, our sponsor and its affiliates may from time to time acquire and hold interests in businesses that compete directly or indirectly with us. For example, affiliates of our sponsor regularly invest in utility companies that compete with solar energy and renewable energy companies such as ours. In addition, affiliates of our sponsor own interests in one of the largest solar power developers in India and may in the future make other investments in solar power, including in the United States. Our certificate of incorporation provides that none of our sponsor, any of its affiliates or any director who is not employed by us (including any non-employee director who serves as one of our officers in both his or her director and officer capacities) or his or her affiliates will have any duty to refrain from engaging, directly or indirectly, in the same business activities or similar business activities or lines of business in which we operate. Our sponsor also may pursue acquisition opportunities that may be complementary to our business, and, as a result, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us. In addition, our sponsor may have an interest in pursuing acquisitions, divestitures and other transactions that, in its judgment, could enhance its investment, even though such transactions might involve risks to investors.

We have elected to take advantage of the “controlled company” exemption to the corporate governance rules for NYSE-listed companies, which could make our common stock less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

Because we qualify as a “controlled company” under the corporate governance rules for NYSE-listed companies, we are not required to have a majority of our board of directors be independent, nor are we required to have a compensation committee or an independent nominating function. In light of our status as a controlled company, in the future we could elect not to have a majority of our board of directors be independent or not to have a compensation committee or nominating and governance committee. Accordingly, should the interests of 313 Acquisition LLC or our sponsor differ from those of other stockholders, the other stockholders may not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the corporate governance rules for NYSE-listed companies. Our status as a controlled company could make our common stock less attractive to some investors or otherwise harm our stock price.

Provisions in our certificate of incorporation, bylaws, stockholders agreement and under Delaware law might discourage, delay or prevent a change of control of our company or changes in our management and, therefore, depress the trading price of our common stock.

Our certificate of incorporation, bylaws and stockholders agreement contain provisions that could depress the trading price of our common stock by discouraging, delaying or preventing a change of control of our company or changes in our management that the stockholders of our company may believe advantageous. These provisions include:

- establishing a classified board of directors so that not all members of our board of directors are elected at one time;
- authorizing “blank check” preferred stock that our board of directors could issue to increase the number of outstanding shares to discourage a takeover attempt;
- limiting the ability of stockholders to call a special stockholder meeting;
- limiting the ability of stockholders to act by written consent;
- providing that the board of directors is expressly authorized to make, alter or repeal our bylaws;
- establishing advance notice requirements for nominations for elections to our board of directors or for proposing matters that can be acted upon by stockholders at stockholder meetings;
- requiring our sponsor to consent to certain actions, as described under the section of our 2015 Proxy Statement captioned “Related Party Transactions—Agreements with Our Sponsor,” for so long as our sponsor, Summit Partners, Todd Pedersen and Alex Dunn or their respective affiliates collectively own, in the aggregate, at least 30% of our outstanding shares of common stock;
- the removal of directors only for cause and only upon the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% in voting power of all the then-outstanding shares of stock of our company entitled to vote thereon, voting together as a single class, if Blackstone and its affiliates beneficially own, in the aggregate, less than 30% in voting power of the stock of our company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors; and
- that certain provisions may be amended only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66 2/3% in voting power of all the then-outstanding shares of stock of our company entitled to vote thereon, voting together as a single class, if Blackstone and its affiliates beneficially own, in the aggregate, less than 30% in voting power of the stock of our company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors.

If securities or industry analysts do not publish or cease publishing research or reports about us, our business or our market, or if they change their recommendations regarding our stock adversely, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will be influenced by the research and reports that industry or securities analysts may publish about us, our business, our market or our competitors. If any of the analysts who do now, or may in the future, cover us change their recommendation regarding our stock adversely, or provide more favorable relative recommendations about our competitors, our stock price would likely decline. If any analyst who may cover us were to cease coverage of our company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

Since September 22, 2016, we have had ongoing discussions via the comment letter process with the Staff of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Staff”) concerning the Staff’s review of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for period ended June 30, 2016. There is one unresolved comment relating to the Staff’s request for additional information regarding the activities required to be performed by the Company in order to apply for and receive ITCs with respect to a solar energy system. On November 4, 2016, we submitted our response to the SEC regarding this comment. As of November 8, 2016, we are still waiting for a response from the SEC. We are continuing to diligently work with the SEC to clear the unresolved comment.

Item 6. Exhibits

- 10.1[†] Credit Agreement, dated as of August 4, 2016, Vivint Solar Financing II, LLC, as Borrower, Investec Bank PLC, as Administrative Agent, Issuing Bank, Joint Bookrunner and Joint Lead Arranger, ING Capital LLC, Silicon Valley Bank and SunTrust Robinson Humphrey, Inc., as Joint Bookrunners and Joint Lead Arrangers, BankUnited, N.A. and Deutsche Bank AG, New York Branch, as Joint Lead Arrangers, ING Capital LLC and Suntrust Bank as Co-Syndication Agents, and Silicon Valley Bank as Documentation Agent
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1* Certification of Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.2* Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 101.INS XBRL Instance Document
- 101.SCH XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
- 101.CAL XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
- 101.DEF XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document
- 101.LAB XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
- 101.PRE XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

* The Certifications attached as Exhibits 32.1 and 32.2 that accompany this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are not deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are not to be incorporated by reference into any filing of Vivint Solar, Inc. under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities

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Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, whether made before or after the date of this Form 10-Q, irrespective of any general incorporation language contained in such filing.

† Confidential treatment has been requested with respect to certain portions of this exhibit. Omitted portions have been filed separately with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

VIVINT SOLAR, INC.

Date: November 8, 2016 /s/ David Bywater
David Bywater

Interim Chief Executive Officer

(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: November 8, 2016 /s/ Dana Russell
Dana Russell

Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President

(Principal Financial Officer)