

Office of the Mayor

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July 11, 2011

## Inland Empire Renewable Energy EB-5 Regional Center Riverside, California

Congratulations on becoming the first federally approved EB-5 Regional Center in Riverside and the Inland Empire.

The Inland Empire Renewable Energy (IERE) EB-5 Regional Center will allow Riverside and the Inland Empire, a transit point for more than half of the goods traffic coming into the United States, to take another important step towards becoming a major player in the global economy.

Focused on renewable energy, the IERE EB-5 Regional Center will, by its presence in Riverside, accelerate the City's already rapid progress towards becoming a green economy. Riverside has gained statewide recognition as California's first Emerald City for its sustainability practices, and as a model solar city for its innovative solar energy generation projects. Riverside plans to develop 20MW of solar energy by 2020, and the IERE EB-5 Regional Center is critical to the accomplishment of this goal.

The IERE Regional Center is poised to attract \$80 million by way of EB-5 direct foreign investment into renewable projects in Riverside, creating 1,600 direct and indirect jobs. It will bring international capital, create new employment opportunities, and enhance tax revenues in the City and region.

By choosing Riverside, the IERE EB-5 Regional Center will become part of a City that has been named one of the world's Top 7 Smart Communities by Intelligent Community Forum, and as one of the world's most livable cities by LivCom.

Kudos on your accomplishment, welcome to Riverside.

Sincerely,

Ronald O. Loveridge

Mayor