

Home Blog: Gretawire OTR Interviews

Is Energy Secretary Chu even deeper in the Solyndra scandal?

Published February 17, 2012 | On the Record | On the Record

Special Guests: Rep. Cliff Stearns

Print Email Share Recommend (2) Tweet (5)

This is a rush transcript from "On the Record," February 17, 2012. This copy may not be in its final form and may be updated.

GRETA VAN SUSTEREN, FOX NEWS HOST:
First, the White

House did it again! They waited until late Friday, about 6:00 PM, to dump more Solyndra documents on Congress. Now, those documents are ones that a House committee had been demanding. Why did the White House wait until late Friday at 6:00 PM to do it? You know why.

Sponsored Links Buy a link here

60-Year-Old Mom Looks 25
TODAY ONLY: Mom Reveals \$5 Wrinkle Trick That Has...
ConsumerLifestyles.org

New Policy in CALIFORNIA
[FEB 2011] Drivers with no DUKs in...
AutoYourInsuranceSearch.com

But that isn't even the big Solyndra news tonight. There is new information that suggests **SECRETARY OF ENERGY STEVEN CHU** may be deeper in this scandal than the White House has been saying.

CONGRESSMAN CLIFF STEARNS of the House Energy and Commerce Committee joins us. Good evening, sir.

REP. CLIFF STEARNS, R-FLA.: Good evening, Greta.

VAN SUSTEREN: All right, new information just coming out -- not in the document dump tonight because that -- people haven't had a chance to sift through that, but Prologis. Who are they, and how do they play into the Solyndra scandal?

STEARNS: Well, first of all, they're part of the 1705 program, loan guarantee that Department of Energy gave out for Solyndra. They're headquartered in San Francisco. They're a huge company. They operate in 22 countries. And they got \$1.4 billion from the Department of Energy to develop -- put solar panels on the roofs of their commercial buildings.

VAN SUSTEREN: All right. When did they get that loan in relation to Solyndra going belly up?

STEARNS: Two months before Solyndra went belly up.

VAN SUSTEREN: All right, and so they got a loan -- let's get this right. They got a

Transcripts

Latest Transcript
February 17, 2012

Guests: Tommy Thompson

Please click on a date for previous transcripts:

February 2012									
30	31	1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	1	2	3	4			

This Monday on 'On the Record'



• Candidate blues? Can the GOP unite behind one candidate in the 2012 race to the White

House?



Follow GretaWire



Follow us on Twitter to get exclusive updates and announcements from the show!

Follow @gretawire 110K followers

STEARNS: Department of Energy.

VAN SUSTEREN: ... to buy those panels that Solyndra was manufacturing.

STEARNS: Well, that wasn't, ostensibly, the reason. They were supposed to go out in the marketplace and buy these solar panels to put on their commercial buildings, their flat roofs across the United States. But it turns out some of the e-mails we got shows that there was some indication that Secretary Chu was an intermediary with the White House, saying that possibly this company could buy the solar panel from Solyndra before it went bankrupt.

VAN SUSTEREN: Well, why in the world would that company want to buy them from Solyndra? From what we learned, is that Solyndra was making them at a price that exceeded the cost you could buy them from China. So what in the world would be the incentive for Prologis to buy them from Solyndra?

STEARNS: We did a letter to the White House with just that very question, asking, What was the deal? Why would Prologis buy from Solyndra at a higher price when they could buy it in the open market for cheaper? And second of all, did Solyndra actually provide to Prologis solar panels? How many, and what effect was the contract?

VAN SUSTEREN: Why were we giving federal stimulus money in a loan to Prologis? I went on the Internet, and this is a company that has \$43.3 billion in assets. They say they're the leading owner, operator and developer of industrial real estate in the Americas, Europe and Asia, and they operate, apparently, 600 million square feet. Why do they need our money?

STEARNS: They don't. And that's -- that's really what is the basis of, I think, the investigation of the O&I committee that I chair, is we see favoritism. Greta, throughout the stimulus package.

In fact, you know, today is one year ago we started the Solyndra investigation. And three years to this date, this very date, the 17th of February, was the \$750 billion stimulus package. So in effect, what we see throughout all these stimulus packages is favoritism towards their campaign contributors.

VAN SUSTEREN: All right, how does -- how does a loan of \$1.4 billion -- and we're so used to these numbers that billion...

STEARNS: Yes. Right.

VAN SUSTEREN: We've sort of gotten desensitized to it, but a billion's a lot of money, is how did \$1.4 billion to this very successful \$43.3 billion...

(CROSSTALK)

VAN SUSTEREN: How many jobs did that generate? Where's the stimulus?

STEARNS: Yes, I can't imagine they generate any jobs. Just like, you know, you saw that Duke Energy got \$230 million and they generated 196 jobs.

VAN SUSTEREN: And who's the -- and who's the CEO of Duke Energy?

STEARNS: Jim Rogers is the CEO. He's now co-chair of the national Democrat convention. So that would indicate, you know, some kind of -- I would think some favoritism. But the larger question is, how much has the White House been involved in manipulating and making sure these loan work out...

VAN SUSTEREN: Well...

STEARNS: ... as they promote these loans across the program?

VAN SUSTEREN: Well, there are a couple -- there are a couple -- Why are we loaning money to an expensive company? That's the first thing. Now...

STEARNS: They could go to the bank themselves.

VAN SUSTEREN: Yes. I mean, are they -- it looks like they could sell fund for that.

STEARNS: Yes.

Connect with **Greta Van Susteren**



West Sacramento: Mom Makes Botox Doctors Furious

California: Mom Publishes Free FaceIt Secret That Has Angered...



How to Relieve Your Joints?

Shocking discovery by Cambridge researchers for amazing joint relief.



New Policy in California

Drivers with no DUIs can get auto insurance for only \$84k.

GretaWire Poll

In the past 30 days, has your view of candidate Governor Mitt Romney changed?

- I have a higher opinion now than 30 days ago
- I have the same view as 30 days ago - I like him
- I have the same view as 30 days ago - I don't like him
- I have a lower opinion now than 30 days ago
- I have the same view as 30 days ago - indifferent to him...don't like him, don't dislike him

Vote

View Results

Connect With Greta



Myspace



Facebook



Twitter



Email

Record Mobile Alerts



Check out our 'On the Record' Mobile Page on FOXNews.mobi for up-to-date news and highlights.

Crime & Courts

would they want to buy Solyndra panels if they're more expensive than they can get in China? And four, it looks like, you know, Solyndra since couldn't sell the panels themselves that we go out and loan money to somebody else and say, Use that money to buy from Solyndra because they're going belly up! That's what it looks like.

STEARNS: It looks like an example...

VAN SUSTEREN: It looks funny to me!

STEARNS: Yes, like you're giving me money to go to buy something from somebody you also gave money to, too. So it's really a circle of just circulating taxpayers' money at taxpayers' expense.

VAN SUSTEREN: All right, now, I realize you get these documents 6:00 PM on Friday night, these Solyndra documents, and I assume you're going to get documents on Prologis so we can figure out who are the -- who runs it, whether there are any political connections, and whether there's any legitimate reason to have this loan and even whether any jobs were developed. I figure -- you're going to go after that, right?

STEARNS: We're going to go after that and try and look at the contract that was developed between Prologis and Solyndra, and actually to see if any products were bought and what was the price of those products.

VAN SUSTEREN: And the -- and let's not forget the whole goal, to stimulate the economy. Anyway, Congressman, thank you, sir.

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Share](#) [Recommend](#) 2 [Tweet](#) 5

[continue](#)

< 1 2 >

Sponsored Links

[Buy a link here](#)

New Policy in California
2011-Drivers with no DUIs are eligible for up to 50% off car insurance
[TheFinanceAuthority.com](#)

51 Year Old Looks 25
Mom publishes free facelift secret that has angered doctors...
[ConsumerLifestyles.org](#)

Mom Makes Botox Doctors Furious
Mom Reveals Clever Wrinkle Therapy That Makes Botox Doctors Furious!
[www.consumerproducts.com](#)



[Home](#) | [Video](#) | [Politics](#) | [U.S.](#) | [Opinion](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [SciTech](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Leisure](#) | [World](#) | [Sports](#) | [Weather](#)

©2012 FOX News Network, LLC. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed. All market data delayed 20 minutes. [Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)



Crime & Courts offers stories, videos, and more on missing kids, murder cases, celebs in trouble.

The GretaWire Newsletter

Get Greta's daily update, with all the latest videos, news, and commentary from her blog!

Enter your e-mail address below to sign up now.

[Sign Up](#)

Connect with **Greta Van Susteren**

[Like](#) 40k

[Follow @gretawire](#) 116K followers

