GOOD MORNING, THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO JOIN YOU IN CELEBRATING THIS IMPORTANT OCCASION FOR ONE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA’S MOST EXCEPTIONAL LOCAL BUSINESSES.

I WAS FORTUNATE TO TOUR THE ETHEL M FACTORY A COUPLE MONTHS AGO, AND I WAS IMPRESSED NOT ONLY BY THE OPTIMISM OF MANY OF THE WORKERS AND MANAGERS, BUT I WAS STRUCK BY THEIR VISION AS WELL.

WHEN I WAS HERE LAST I HAD A GREAT CONVERSATION WITH ETHEL M’S MANAGERS ABOUT HOW THEY PLANNED TO REMAIN A PREMIERE COMPANY, AND THEY SHARED THEIR VISION OF HOW THEY WOULD FIND AREAS IN WHICH THE COMPANY COULD BE BETTER, MORE COMPETITIVE, AND MORE EFFICIENT.

I THINK TODAY’S CEREMONY AND THE OPENING OF THIS STATE-OF-THE ART SOLAR GARDEN IS A CRITICAL PART OF THAT VISION, AND I THINK THAT VISION IS ONE WHICH WE ALL SHARE AS NEVADANS, AND AS AMERICANS.

THIS IS AN ERA OF TROUBLING GOVERNMENT OVERREACH, WHICH HAS CREATED AN UNPREDICTABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURS. I’VE SAID MANY TIMES THAT THE SOLUTIONS TO OUR PROBLEMS ARE CREATED HERE, IN COMMUNITIES LIKE HENDERSON, NOT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. SO I’M PROUD TO SEE A LOCAL COMPANY WITH THE COURAGE TO COMMIT TO THE TYPE OF CREATIVE INNOVATION THAT BREEDS SUCCESS.

MARS CHOCOLATE AND ETHEL M HAVE CERTAINLY PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THAT COMMITMENT TO INNOVATION. THIS IS A PERFECT ILLUSTRATION OF HOW BUSINESS AND ENTERPRISE, FUELED BY TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGHS, CAN SERVE AS THE ENGINES OF INNOVATION, WHETHER IN THE AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY.

CLEAN, RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LIKE ETHEL M’S SOLAR GARDEN, WILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR NATION’S INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMY WELL INTO THE FUTURE.

I AM TRULY PROUD THAT MY HOME STATE CAN SHOWCASE THIS INCREDIBLE ACHIEVEMENT AND MODEL FOR OTHER INDUSTRIES, RIGHT HERE IN SOUTHERN NEVADA.

AGAIN, I’M GRATEFUL TO ETHEL M AND MARS CHOCOLATE FOR ALLOWING ME TO BE HERE TODAY, AND I THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TO SUPPORT THIS PROUD DAY FOR OUR STATE.

THANK YOU.