[redacted] E-01575A-09-0453

0000106297

ORIGINAL

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMI[redacted]

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

RECEIVED

2009 DEC 17 P 3:[redacted]

AZ CORPORATION COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Investigator: Trish Meeter **Phone:** [redacted] **Fax:** [redacted]

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion No. 2009 83531 **Date:** 12/4/2009

Complaint Description: 08A Rate Case Items - Opposed
19Y Other - Elec Dereg - Renewable Resource Portfolio

	First:	Last:
Complaint By:	Gail	Getzwiller

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
DEC 17 2009
DOCKETED BY

Account Name: Gail Getzwiller **Home:** [redacted]
Street: [redacted] **Work:**
City: Sonoita **CBR:**
State: AZ **Zip:** 85637 **is:**

Utility Company. Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Division: Electric
Contact Name: [redacted] **Contact Phone:** [redacted]

Nature of Complaint:

12/3 **********RECEIVED THRU CHAIRMAN MAYES' OFFICE AND CC'D TO ALL COMMISSIONERS*******DOCKETED [redacted] 01575A-09-0453**********

From: Save the Scenic Sonoita Grasslands [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2009 12:29 PM
To: Mayes-WebEmail; Newman-Web; Kennedy-Web; Pierce-Web; Stump-Web
Cc: Prem Bahl
Subject: SSVEC rate case, docket # [redacted] Moratorium Docket E-01575A-09-0453

Dear Chairman Mayes and Commissioners,

I have attached an article about the MIT Solar Revolution Project. This is another reason for not moving forward with a new utility corridor in the Elgin/Sonoita Valley. The researchers at MIT see a future with homes powering themselves in the next 10 years. An alternative to the 69kV must be explored before SSVEC is allowed to erect an ugly monument to Coal Fired Energy.

Instead of SSVEC wasting cooperator dollars on fighting the V7 Feeder communities, they could be searching for stimulus funds or other sources to solve electrical demand in other more positive ways. Implementing Demand Side Management programs to help in reducing peak demands. Applying for Department of Energy Grants to help people in this area with weatherization and retrofitting conservation measures. SSVEC could be partnering with Santa Cruz County to apply for a $7 million EECBG grant - deadline is December 15th, 2009. However, they are too busy fighting and engaging their attorneys.

SSVEC focus is not on assisting it's cooperators and it is a shame to miss the opportunities that are at hand.

Thank you for you kind consideration.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Sincerely,
gail getzwiller
[redacted]
Sonoita, AZ 85637
[redacted]

Here are two paragraphs excerpted from the article below..

"This is just the beginning," said Nocera, principal investigator for the Solar Revolution Project funded by the Chesonis Family Foundation and co-Director of the Eni-MIT Solar Frontiers Center. "The scientific community is really going to run with this."

"Nocera hopes that within 10 years, homeowners will be able to power their homes in daylight through photovoltaic cells, while using excess solar energy to produce hydrogen and oxygen to power their own household fuel cell. Electricity-by-wire from a central source could be a thing of the past."

Friday, August 1, 2008 | Reason : In the News | Print | Comments | ShareThis

'Major discovery' from MIT primed to unleash solar revolution
by MIT
Thanks to SPS for the link.

http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2008/oxygen-0731.html

'Major discovery' from MIT primed to unleash solar revolution
Scientists mimic essence of plants' energy storage system

Anne Trafton, News Office

In a revolutionary leap that could transform solar power from a marginal, boutique alternative into a mainstream energy source, MIT researchers have overcome a major barrier to large-scale solar power: storing energy for use when the sun doesn't shine.

Until now, solar power has been a daytime-only energy source, because storing extra solar energy for later use is prohibitively expensive and grossly inefficient. With today's announcement, MIT researchers have hit upon a simple, inexpensive, highly efficient process for storing solar energy.

Requiring nothing but abundant, non-toxic natural materials, this discovery could unlock the most potent, carbon-free energy source of all: the sun. "This is the nirvana of what we've been talking about for years," said MIT's Daniel Nocera, the Henry Dreyfus Professor of Energy at MIT and senior author of a paper describing the work in the July 31 issue of Science. "Solar power has always been a limited, far-off solution. Now we can seriously think about solar power as unlimited and soon."

Inspired by the photosynthesis performed by plants, Nocera and Matthew Kanan, a postdoctoral fellow in Nocera's lab, have developed an unprecedented process that will allow the sun's energy to be used to split water into hydrogen and oxygen gases. Later, the oxygen and hydrogen may be recombined inside a fuel cell, creating carbon-free electricity to power your house or your electric car, day or night.

The key component in Nocera and Kanan's new process is a new catalyst that produces oxygen gas from water; another catalyst produces valuable hydrogen gas. The new catalyst consists of cobalt metal, phosphate and an electrode, placed in water. When electricity -- whether from a photovoltaic cell, a wind turbine or any other

source -- runs through the electrode, the cobalt and phosphate form a thin film on the electrode, and oxygen gas is produced.

Combined with another catalyst, such as platinum, that can produce hydrogen gas from water, the system can duplicate the water splitting reaction that occurs during photosynthesis.

The new catalyst works at room temperature, in neutral pH water, and it's easy to set up, Nocera said. "That's why I know this is going to work. It's so easy to implement," he said.

'Giant leap' for clean energy

Sunlight has the greatest potential of any power source to solve the world's energy problems, said Nocera. In one hour, enough sunlight strikes the Earth to provide the entire planet's energy needs for one year.

James Barber, a leader in the study of photosynthesis who was not involved in this research, called the discovery by Nocera and Kanan a "giant leap" toward generating clean, carbon-free energy on a massive scale.

"This is a major discovery with enormous implications for the future prosperity of humankind," said Barber, the Ernst Chain Professor of Biochemistry at Imperial College London. "The importance of their discovery cannot be overstated since it opens up the door for developing new technologies for energy production thus reducing our dependence for fossil fuels and addressing the global climate change problem."

'Just the beginning'

Currently available electrolyzers, which split water with electricity and are often used industrially, are not suited for artificial photosynthesis because they are very expensive and require a highly basic (non-benign) environment that has little to do with the conditions under which photosynthesis operates.

More engineering work needs to be done to integrate the new scientific discovery into existing photovoltaic systems, but Nocera said he is confident that such systems will become a reality.

"This is just the beginning," said Nocera, principal investigator for the Solar Revolution Project funded by the Chesonis Family Foundation and co-Director of the Eni-MIT Solar Frontiers Center. "The scientific community is really going to run with this."

Nocera hopes that within 10 years, homeowners will be able to power their homes in daylight through photovoltaic cells, while using excess solar energy to produce hydrogen and oxygen to power their own household fuel cell. Electricity-by-wire from a central source could be a thing of the past.

The project is part of the MIT Energy Initiative, a program designed to help transform the global energy system to meet the needs of the future and to help build a bridge to that future by improving today's energy systems. MITEI Director Ernest Moniz, Cecil and Ida Green Professor of Physics and Engineering Systems, noted that "this discovery in the Nocera lab demonstrates that moving up the transformation of our energy supply system to one based on renewables will depend heavily on frontier basic science."

The success of the Nocera lab shows the impact of a mixture of funding sources - governments, philanthropy, and industry. This project was funded by the National Science Foundation and by the Chesonis Family Foundation, which gave MIT $10 million this spring to launch the Solar Revolution Project, with a goal to make the large scale deployment of solar energy within 10 years.
End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

12/4/09

Dear Ms. Getzwiller,

Your email regarding the Sulphur Springs Valley Electric CoOp ("SSVEC") has been received throught the offices of the Commissioners. Your comments wil be placed on file with the Docket Control Section of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission"), made a part of the record and will be considered by the Commission before rendering a decision.

Staff appreciates your comments and the interest taken regarding this matter.
If you should have any questions relating to this issue, please feel free to contact me at 800-222-7000.

Sincerely,

Trish Meeter
Public Utilities Consumer Analyst
Utilities Division
Arizona Corporation Commission
End of Comments

Date Completed: 12/4/2009

Opinion No. **2009 - 83531**