

E-01345A-09-0338



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Antc

~~OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM~~

From: david g [davidg352003@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 08, 2010 12:02 PM
Subject: Re: APS Rebates

ORIGINAL

I would like to ask that the rebate reduction for new solar energy users not be allowed to be back-dated but instead set for April first, after the date they made their public announcement of reducing solar rebates.

I had submitted and obligated myself to purchasing solar panels, the request went in on March 31st to APS from the company installing my solar panels. Then I find that APS is changing the game after I am committed is just not fair. They should not be allowed to reduce the rebates effective retroactive to when I put in my good faith request.

I appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
David Guenther

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

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DOCKETED BY *MM*

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

2010 APR - 9 P 2:10

RECEIVED

Antonio Gill

From: Brian Gibson [brian.g@aessolarnow.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 3:53 PM
To: Pierce-Web; Newman-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web

Arizona Corporation Commission
Kristen K. Mayes, Chairman
Gary Pierce
Paul Newman
Sandra D. Kennedy
Bob Stump

Regarding: APS Application for Modification of Residential Incentives (Docket E-01345A-09-0338)

Dear Commission Members

I have some questions and concerns regarding the above referenced application and have outlined these in bullet format for clarity. I ask the ACC to consider these points in making their decision.

- Despite recommendations from the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation, APS has asked for a reduction from \$3.00 per watt to \$2.15. The VEIC recommended \$2.30. They have not given a convincing argument why such a dramatic reduction is warranted. This especially in light of the tier program and incentive period program they are also suggesting. I do agree that the current \$3.00 per watt is not appropriate in light of the fact that system costs on the residential level are now below \$6.00 per watt. I do feel the incentive is more realistic at \$2.75.
- APS is only exploring the reduction in incentive rather than the two other options noted on page 2. The raising of the adjuster in conjunction with a smaller reduction in the incentive should be considered since it avoids many of the economic pitfalls associated with the simple reduction of incentives. In an economic climate such as we presently live in, why must the only solution be throwing a wet blanket on the one industry not currently dying in the state. Consider the impact on State programs when the solar industry employment level drops due to a reduction in solar installations.
- I would very much like to know what the added monthly impact on the environmental surcharge on my APS bill would be in order to mitigate this incentive reduction level. Last month it was \$4.46 and I know I would not be even noticeable to me if it was a little higher.
- Are there other sources that APS could be tapping? Excuse my lack of knowledge in this area but what was all the touted Federal program money for if not to stimulate the economy and provide jobs?
- APS also suggested a tier program in which the \$2.15 per watt incentive would drop to \$1.95 after 4 MW had been reached. This would be catastrophic to the industry.
- Of special concern to me is their requested retroactive date of 3.31.2010. I understand the need to curb a last minute rush of applications but there are instances such as mine that need to be considered. I mailed two applications on 3.30.2010 that unless the US Postal Service has acted beyond expectations, were not received by APS by midnight the same day. These are two applications I am under contract for and submitted in good faith. At the very least the retroactive date should allow for the delivery by mail of applications made before their announcement. At least 4.2.2010.

While I am as anxious as everyone to see a resolution to this quickly, I do ask the ACC to consider these points and not approve the APS request as presently structured.

Sincerely
Brian Gibson
Advanced Energy Systems
(602) 228-6384

Antonio Gill

From: Connie Smith [connandlee@cox.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 4:22 PM
To: Pierce-Web
Cc: Stump-Web; Kennedy-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Newman-Web
Subject: APS application for changing residential incentives

Dear Members of the Commission,

I was very shocked when I heard that APS has asked for a reduction on residential incentives on solar electric, down from \$3.00 to \$2.15 per watt. The solar industry from what I have seen is growing leaps & bounds and offering jobs in the State of Arizona, in which our unemployment rate is over 9%. Why would APS try and discourage a home owner from trying to use the sun to help lower their electric bills, at the same time put qualified workers on the unemployment line? I am sure there are other avenues that APS can follow ie: and increase in the monthly enviromental surcharge which as of my last bill was \$4.46 If a \$1.00 - \$1.50 per month is needed, I feel this is an avenue APS should explore. Also, I am very confused as to the Federal stimulus package that is suppost to help the economy and provide jobs, as to how this will be effected. I sincerely appeal to you the commission members to not let this incentive per watt go below \$2.75 per watt.

Thank you for your consideration and your attention to this matter.

Lee & Connie Smith
35409 N. Via Tramonto
Phx, Az. 85086

Antonio Gill

From: Wes Wagner [Wes@pkcaz.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 01, 2010 1:38 PM
To: Pierce-Web
Subject: APS Proposed reduction of solar credit

Dear Mr. Pierce:

I just completed a bid process to install a solar system for my home. I relied on APS information (that the rebate would be at the \$3.00 level posted on their website) and selected bidders and contractors per their instructions. I awarded the contract to the selected business and paid them the initial payment last week. They submitted the paperwork to APS yesterday, March 31, and were notified by APS that they were seeking a "retroactive" determination that would only allow the credit for applications filed with APS through March 30. I have invested a lot of time and effort meeting with different companies to select a system that I will not be able to install if the rebate is reduced to \$2.15.

If your decision is to reduce the rebate I would ask that you consider allowing all contracts that were signed before March 30 to be grand-fathered rather than allowing APS to retroactively apply the proposed rebate. The contractor was not even notified of the proposed change until March 31.

I appreciate your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,
Gary Wagner
602-944-4441

Antonio Gill

From: Kathy Pullmann [kpullmann@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 02, 2010 11:16 AM
To: Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web; Utilities Div - Mailbox
Subject: APS retroactive rebate impact

Arizona Corporation Commission

April 2, 2010

Ref: reduced APS rebate date

Two years ago my husband and I stated researching a photovoltaic system for our home. We have always been environmental conscience, i.e., one car, golf cart for local usage, recycling, attic fans, etc. With the goal to cover 80% of our electric usage with solar power, we auto deposited our social security checks into a saving account.

Last evening as we were doing the final paperwork for the APS rebate, Tim Hartmann of Perfect Power INC. told us APS had requested ACC to retroactively decrease the incentive rate. The direct impact on us would be five more months of saving before we can either begin or scrap the entire plan. Please keep in mind those of us on fixed incomes when making your ruling. If you change the rate, at worst case please set an future-vs-retroactive effective date.

Clarence and Kathy Pullmann

16329 W Bridal Veil Ln

Surprise, AZ 85387

(623) 266-6078 H

(623) 363-3917 C

Antonio Gill

From: shawn lustig [gorerockconstruction@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 03, 2010 7:05 AM
To: Mayes-WebEmail; Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: APS Request for solar incentive change

Honorable Chair and Commissioners,

It is unconscionable that APS is hitting us with this rule change request on such short notice! The customers that we are currently negotiating with are going to see this as a blatant "bait-and-switch". Not to mention this changes the Return On Investment from about 8 years to 13 years.

All over the country, electric service providers are finding ways to help the solar industry and APS' miscalculation is crippling Arizona's solar industry. As of yesterday, the largest solar employer cut their workforce by 35%! This miscalculation is costing Arizonians jobs!!!!!!

I strongly urge the Corporation Commission not to grant the request to make this rule retroactive to March 31, 2010, and instead delay the effective date to May 1st or later. This would at least give us a chance to notify customers of the upcoming change.

Thank you for your consideration,

--

Shawn Lustig
GoreRock Construction, Inc.
"Building A Green Future"
ROC 249799 B02 ROC 249800 B
480-776-4218 O.
480-659-1120 F.

Antonio Gill

From: Bruce Barth [bruce@barthpackaging.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 03, 2010 1:51 PM
To: Mayes-WebEmail
Cc: Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web; callen@azleg.gov; mreagan@azleg.gov; jkavanagh@azleg.gov
Subject: Proposed APS Solar Rebate Reduction

**E-mail Letter
April 3, 2010 to:**

**Kristen K. Mayes
ACC Chairman
Phoenix, Arizona**

**Dear Ms. Mayes,
Having recently completed the replacement of the roof insulation of my home, I find myself in the final stage of design and installation of a pv solar system for my home. Just last Friday, March 26, the sales person with whom I have been working told me that the company for whom he worked is having financial difficulties and likely will not be able to carry through on their commitments.**

I immediately interviewed a new installer (on Tuesday, March 30) to take over my project. The very next day, Wednesday, March 31, I received the notice from APS that the rebate amount had been retroactively reduced by 28%! What a shock!

I can understand the issue of timing the accumulation/disbursement of the fund, however I am taken aback by the drastic, after-the-fact action taken by APS and what appears to be in concurrence with the Arizona Corporation Commission, based on the front page article today in the Arizona Republic. I have long been of the impression that the AZCC is looking out for the interests of we consumers, given the monopoly granted to APS by the citizens Arizona.

I certainly would not view it as protection of we rate payers if AZCC supports the obvious poor reading by APS of the rate of buy-in by we homeowners. I hope that you and your fellow commissioners do not propose to leave us to fend ourselves in the face of what would amount to unmitigated power of the monopoly in this case.

It is hard to imagine any consumer business (which I suppose is the alternative to a monopoly) slamming the door in the face of their customers just as they are stepping over the threshold. What a sharp contrast this APS action is in comparison with the phased in rebate reductions and graduated time frames for SRP customers.

I urge you and your fellow board members to find some form of transition which acknowledges your and APS' responsibility to collect and disburse the accumulated/accumulating funds in such a manner which shows even a reasonable amount of respect for the Arizona citizens who grant the monopoly and pay for both the power and the rebates.....instead of kicking us out the door as if we are stray dogs.

You and APS have messed up the timing here. Please do not make this APS planning failure

into our problem. The problem is theirs..... and yours.

We do understand getting the dollar flow right, but that is the job of APS/AZCC, not ours.

Please do not treat us like the piggy bank.....we've already had too much of that.

Since they can't get the timing right, APS can be their own piggy bank to even out the flows.

Please use your power and responsibility to even out the flows in a way that is both and responsible and respectful of your constituencies. We deserve nothing less.

**Bruce Barth
Scottsdale, AZ**

Antonio Gill

From: Chuck Bishop [cbishop@royalsolaraz.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2010 8:46 PM
To: Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web
Subject: APS solar rebate request input

Arizona Corporation Commission board members,

I am writing regarding the APS request to reduce the amount they pay on solar rebates. I understand the dilemma they are facing with depleting funds and their rationale for reducing their rebate structure. The primary reason for my letter is in reaction to their request to make the policy retroactive to 3/30/10. As a solar contractor I was not aware of this requested change until 4/1/10 (my understanding was that this information was first posted on the APS web site 3/31/10) and neither were the APS customers we were working with. Contracts that were entered into between 3/28 and 4/1/10 in good faith under the current published program would be voided if APS's request is approved as requested.

The law requires a customer to have a 3 day right of cancellation on any contract written for home improvement so many companies that follow the law don't process the contracts for 3 days – thus contracts written on Monday, March 29th or March 30th – before any notice of changes was announced would not be submitted to APS earlier than 3 days later - Thursday April 1 or Friday April 2. Under the APS request these contracts would be voided because they were not submitted before 3/31/10. This seems unfair to both the APS customer and the contractors that follow the 3 day provision of the law.

If the APS request to lower rebates is approved I hope a provision is made that allows for some grace period for agreements written before the request was made but not submitted till later in the week. If Tuesday is the active day then requests by Friday would be more equitable to parties who acted in good faith.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Chuck Bishop
Royal Covers/Royal Solar
cbishop@royalsolaraz.com
www.royalsolaraz.com
office 480-926-2300
mobile 602-206-8505