

ORIGINAL

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COM.

COMMISSIONERS:
GARY PIERCE, CHAIRMAN
BOB STUMP
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
PAUL NEWMAN
BRENDA BURNS

Arizona Corporation Commission
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DEC - 6 2011

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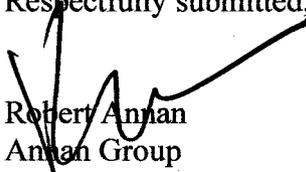
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COMMENTS OF ANNAN GROUP

I am writing to urge your support for the pilot efforts and related research and development programs included in the implementation plans for those electric utilities subject to your regulatory authority.

Thousands of solar and renewable energy systems are now installed on Arizona rooftops and hundreds of megawatts are being installed as grid projects. This achievement is because of your REST policies that have been in place since 2006 aided by federal and state financial incentives. Today, we know more about renewable technology performance as it moves through the supply chain. There exists as never before a real opportunity to take this information and integrate it with information from existing utility operations coupled with new energy efficiency programs and develop and test in pilot conditions products that respond to price signals, as well as products to serve the new smart grid and plug in electric vehicles markets. It supports the new resource path APS calls "Customer Partnering", a path that has the potential of reducing overall costs to consumers while strengthening the security of Arizona's electricity system.

To get there, I urge that the question shift from a debate about today's subsidies to a debate about infrastructure investment consistent with the new directions electric utilities know must eventually take place. As APS's Flagstaff project indicates, the quantifiable values that provide the foundation for the scale and timing of these investments will be found in the pilot projects and related research and development proposed in utility 2012 plans.

Respectfully submitted, December 6, 2011


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