

**ORIGINAL**  
BOB STUMP - Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
BRENDA BURNS  
BOB BURNS  
SUSAN BITTER SMITH

**OPEN MEETING AGENDA IT**



**ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION**

Dear Colleagues and Parties to Docket Nos. E-01345A-10-0394, E-01345A-12-0290, E-01933A-12-0296, and E-04204A-12-0297:

In the Commission's recent order approving APS's annual REST plan, we ordered APS to convene a multi-session technical conference to evaluate the costs and benefits of distributed renewable energy and net metering. Since the issuance of the order, a number of stakeholders in the renewable industry have indicated that they are concerned about the way in which APS has implemented this requirement.

I have monitored the activities of APS's technical conference, and members of the Commission's Staff have attended the sessions held to date. I would note that APS has posted a variety of materials relevant to the technical conference—such as agendas, presentations, meeting notes, responses to participants' questions, participant submissions, and docket filings—at [www.solarfuturearizona.com](http://www.solarfuturearizona.com). It is my understanding that APS will also be conducting a telephonic conference call to discuss discrete topics suggested by participants, such as market price mitigation, benefits from southwest or west facing orientations of fixed arrays, grid security benefits, fuel hedge value, environmental compliance savings, reliability benefits, environmental savings (like water) and avoided RPS wholesale purchases. Both of these measures would appear to be designed to encourage a rigorous and thoughtful dialogue among all participants.

I am hopeful that the outcome of the technical conference process will be a report that sets forth a detailed analysis of the many issues raised by diverse stakeholders. This sort of thorough analysis would be helpful to me in my efforts to evaluate the benefits of renewable energy. To that end, I would ask APS to commit 1) to reviewing all materials submitted by all conference participants and 2) to endeavor to include all such materials as appendices to the final report submitted to the Commission.

I appreciate the efforts to date by stakeholders and APS to engage in a robust, substantive, and productive process. I look forward to reviewing the results of this collaboration.

Sincerely,

Susan Bitter Smith  
Commissioner

Arizona Corporation Commission  
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