

Eric Van Epps

**ORIGINAL**



0000145309

From: **RECEIVED**

To: **JUN -4 P 12:48**

David Schle  
Monday, June 03, 2013 9:34 AM  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**  
Pierce-Web  
Net Metering Supports Individual Freedom  
**JUN 04 2013**

E-01345A-12-0290  
E-01345A-10-0394  
E-01933A-12-0296  
E-04204A-12-0297

AZ CORP COMMISSION  
Dear ~~Commission~~ Pierce,

**DOCKETED BY**

We were planning to put in solar power on our roof, but if Net Metering goes away, so will our motivation to install solar power.

The whole idea of putting solar panels on the roof of our house was so that our family might gain some financial benefit from the inconvenience and expense of putting these panels on our roof and make use of a renewal energy source in a land that is plentiful with sunlight. If net metering were to go away, it allows us to provide energy free of charge to the electric companies who will turn around and sell it back to us at full price. This seems quite unfair.

Equally unjust would be giving the electric company permission to charge us additional amounts because we were able to produce some of our own electricity. This allows the electric company in our area to be a tyrannical monopoly at best and discriminatory at worst.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that most Americans use because it successfully ensures solar customers of getting fair credit for the power they deliver to the grid. This is the free market system. This is how power companies buy and sell power to each other. For some reason utilities are trying to make the case that Arizona should go against this national trend and discourage solar power on the homes of the people. By eliminating net metering, we get no particular value for having solar panels on our roofs. We will then cancel the contract to put them up at our expense.

In a world of concern for energy shortages, the concept that people could make use of a renewal energy source in a distributed fashion seems to be quite logical. It lowers our dependence on non-renewal and foreign energy sources. It lowers Arizona's risk of brown-outs due to energy demands, especially during the sunlight hours in the summer time. The direction to have net metering and individual homes with solar energy should be encouraged instead of discouraged.

**So please protect Net Metering. Please protect us from having to pay higher energy costs because we are trying to be responsible citizens.**

The ridiculous argument that we should spend our funds to put solar panels on our roof so that everyone gets some small benefit, while interesting, totally discourages anyone else from bothering to put on solar panels. If everyone will get the benefit without any investment, there is zero incentive for anyone to put up individual home solar panels. It implies that only large solar farms taking up additional land are valid. It's a spurious argument doomed to failure.

The proposal to eliminate net metering or charging customers with solar panels to pay more in electricity charges is unjust, counterproductive to growth, and lacking in far-sighted vision. If you really want to stop individuals using solar panels to generate electricity in Arizona, allowing the utilities to do away with net metering and/or allowing them to charge individual solar sourcing customers higher rates would be effective.

If net metering goes away, Arizona fails, people suffer, and the power industry gets a black eye for being so contrary to national trends as to eliminate the same incentive for the homeowner that the power companies have, and discouraging use of renewal energy sources.

We would appreciate your consideration in protecting us from the bureaucrats at the power companies, and your vigilance to keep them from making the individual homeowner suffer from their greed. Please assure us of Net Metering!

Sincerely,

*Peggy and David Schlesinger*

**[REDACTED]**  
Chandler, AZ 85226

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"Every company has created the perfect reward system to generate the precise behavior they are currently experiencing."

- Eli Goldratt author of TOC

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Rick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2013 1:54 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** APS & Net Metering

**Dear Garry Pierce,**

It was recently brought to my attention from the Pebble Creek community that net metering for solar customers could be in jeopardy under your watch. I am writing you today to express my concern about this issue and to urge you to not allow APS to abolish the net metering program or curtail its advantages. If you abolish or curtail the net metering program, I can tell you as a paying consumer I would not have even considered solar as an option. Most people I speak with who are considering solar are of the same mindset. The decision that you are being asked to contemplate (abolishing/curtailing net metering) will negatively impact solar installations in the future. Had I known this issue was on the table or even a possibility, I would not have installed solar until this issue was permanently resolved.

You see, I contemplated about going with solar for a good six months before deciding to do so. On April 26, 2013 I had the solar system turned on at my primary residence after five months of going through the process. What I was not informed about at the time the system was turned on is that there was a change in the Solar City / APS process starting just this past April 2013. The bi-directional meter is not installed until after the system has been turned on. Prior to this, the system was not turned on until after the bi-directional meter was installed. I had the solar installed with the intention of being able to send back to the grid any unused electricity and I would receive the credit for that electricity. For one week all I had was the use of the energy that was generated during the day. Anything being sent back to the grid I was not receiving any credit for that week. After some phone calls expressing my displeasure about the situation, APS installed the bi-directional meter. I found out later that APS has 10 days to have the bi-directional meter installed, however until everything was sorted out I was not aware of that fact. So I was under the impression that this situation could go on indefinitely, which added to my frustration that one week. I personally experienced what APS plans on asking for with the abolishment of net metering. For that one week, I personally subsidized a monopoly with free electricity that I was not able to use and that was not the reason I went with solar. Most of the energy generated went back to APS since very little of it would be used during the day. If APS is successful in having net metering abolished I already know how current solar customers will feel as I just went through this experience.

I urge you to keep the net metering program in place as 43 other states have done. In comparison, only 7 states out of 50 do not have a net metering program. For once lets have Arizona be a leader in something. Since this impacts my personal finances, I will be watching and tracking this issue closely. I will note each commissioners vote for either maintaining the net metering program or a vote to have it abolished. Any commissioner who votes for abolishing the net metering program or curtailing its effect, will lose my vote in the next and all future elections. I will support any opposing candidate regardless of their party affiliation.

If there is one thing you can count on if I took the time to send this email expressing my concern, I will take the time to vote as will many others.

Respectfully,

**Richard W Reischel**  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

████████████████████  
Surprise, AZ 85387

PH ██████████

Email - ██████████

June 3, 2013

Dear Gary,

After moving to the West Valley in 2007, my wife and I decided to invest in renewable energy systems to take advantage of the bountiful Arizona sunshine. We decide to purchase both the hot water and electricity systems at a cost of around \$48,000. The various incentives took care of about \$30,000 which resulted in our investment of around \$18,000. The system was projected to save us around 70% of our utility costs, which it does. Our annual savings is running around \$1,200 to \$1,300 per year. This would put our recovery at about 12 to 13 years.

I understand that APS is now having a change of heart and requesting a change in the net metering program. Quite honestly, I feel it is a betrayal to the customers who were encouraged to participate in the programs. As a customer, I feel somewhat akin to a lamb being led to the slaughter!

Now what has the Arizona Corporation Commission done for me as a user of products and services controlled by monopolies? The scariest comment I heard a commissioner make was that he would make the best decision that was allowed by the statutes in existence". Wow! Where do I find these statutes? I wonder if our representatives had help from the utilities in developing them?

Please consider the following comparisons from when I moved to the valley and now. Any error is purely unintentional.

Water - now this is a beaut!! A favorable rate increase was given despite the fact that the increase in costs was due to a gross error on the part of management and government. As the economy improves, can we expect rates to go down? Sure!

Basic service	UP 117%
4,000 gal	UP 88%
Over 4,000 gal	UP 89%

**Gas Service**

Basic service	UP 10%
Per therm	UP 84%

**Electricity**

<b>Basic Service Charge</b>	<b>UP 12.9%</b>
<b>Delivery Service Charge</b>	<b>UP 9%</b>

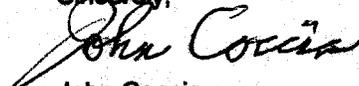
<b>INCOME - Social Security &amp; Pensions</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>49,824</b>
	<b>2012</b>	<b>52,952</b>
<b>Total increase</b>		<b>6.30%</b>
<b>Increase per year</b>		<b>1.26%</b>

Hopefully you can see the difficulties seniors face with utilities increasing at the rates they are and incomes of seniors not keeping pace by any stretch of the imagination. I'm sure that lip service will be given on the scrutiny you give to the requests but I'm also sure the utilities will get what they want.

If they want 5%, they'll ask for 10 and everyone will feel good when a settlement is reached at 6%. Been there, done that!

After all this, the bottom line is that I am totally against any change to the current program for anyone who has already made the investment in renewable energy. Anything else is unethical and immoral. Your support for my position would be appreciated.

Sincerely,



John Coccia

## Eric Van Epps

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**From:** bill [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2013 2:18 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** keep solar alive

Dear sir

In all fairness I was given false info from aps when we had our solar installed.. my wife will attest to this as well. It was a kind of say what they think you want to hear so you will go away attitude. We paid over \$15k for a system and almost immediately after install they raised my bill. Even on months when we don't use electricity (due to net metering) we still pay a litany of charges and our bill is never \$0.. so if I provide electricity for them to sell my neighbor for more than they give me to produce it for them, and I pay monthly charges that are directly related to the things they claim to be losing money on, how is it possible they aren't making money. Besides this was supposed to be about helping the environment as well as doing something to ensure energy costs would stay low for my family. One of the big selling points of this whole debacle was about keeping bills low. There are things that I would be happy to share with you and I wish to remind that I voted for the present set of commissioners because I hoped they would keep conservative values and ideas afloat. I hope I won't find my votes wasted, that would be a shame in the next election cycle.

We were told specifically by aps that our credits would roll over from December to Jan. (and they don't) and that they would be happy to help us find the rate that would save the most money (hearing about this debate one can see the hypocrisy behind the scenes). One last comment for tonight the amount they do pay is ridiculously low compared to what they charge when at years end they consumer is forced to take payment. We have broken all aspects down and to benefit we must be very frugal in our energy useage.

Keep solar alive aps is still churning profits, and I believe in my humble opinion that all new construction should have mandatory solar to stave off outages and high energy prices.

As elected officials, do what is right and stand with those who you work for.

Bill Hranek

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Nick [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2013 1:25 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Solar Net Metering Issue

Mr. Pierce,

I understand that you and the other members on the AZ Commission are within the wrangling of making an unjustified decision to allow APS to STOP the general public from obtaining Solar Net-Metering in conjunction with a newly purchased consumer solar rooftop mounted system.

I will assure you, that should you choose to endorse this falsely justified cause...and the members of Goodyear and its Estrella Mountain Ranch community will do our very best to vote you and any active member who also chooses to endorse this measure out of office!

This is not a threat...it is a reality! The simple thought of allowing APS to move forward with this cause is just wrong and should be against the law. APS stands to loose NO MONEY here, in fact APS will still continue to buy back power at a discounted rate from its residential consumer/producers and still charge the HIGH utility infrastructure support fees which are already in place.

Please rethink this issue clearly and make the right choice and allow Arizona to remain hat the front of the pack in the world of Solar Technology and its production.

Respectfully,  
Nicholas Acciaro

Sent from my iPad.

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Bill Walsh [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 25, 2013 11:51 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Solar Net Metering

Dear Mr. Pierce,

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net metering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,

William Walsh  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 25, 2013 9:43 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering

May 25, 2013

Dear Mr. Gary Peirce:

I am a solar owner, a voter and a APS utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net metering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customer like myself receives fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the commission has for empowering home, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable investment.

Home and business owners expend their capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

**I URGE YOU TO PROTECT NET METERING.**

Sincerely

John Bartoli

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** reddiva [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 26, 2013 12:26 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering

Dear Gary Pierce,

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect netmetering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,

Martin Smith

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Kurt and Charlene [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2013 8:17 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net metering Surprise AZ

Dear Gary Pierce

29 May 2013

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net-metering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Homeowners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Kurt Tengberg

Surprise AZ

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Leeman, Paul [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2013 9:15 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Protect our solar

Dear Mr. Pierce,

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net metering. Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Paul Leeman,

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Stake, Jayne E. [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 11:56 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net metering of solar energy

Dear Chairman Pierce,

I understand that the Corporation Commission is considering a change in how solar energy is metered by APS. At the present time, the solar energy that our solar system generates is credited by APS so that our energy bills are lowered substantially each month. Our system was installed in December, 2012 at the cost of \$36,000. We decided to make this investment in our home so that, as we grow older, we will be protected from ever higher energy bills. At age 68, we were looking ahead and seeing higher and higher energy bills in our future. Because our home and community is 100% electric, the cost of electricity is a major expense for my husband and myself.

I urge the board to maintain the partnership that solar energy owners now have with our APS. The system is mutually beneficial. Although we are saving on our electricity bills, we continue to pay full APS prices for any extra energy that we use beyond what we generate. Further, when we generate more electricity than we need, at year's end APS buys that extra energy from us for less than they charge customers. Thus, APS profits from the output of our solar system.

I urge you as chair of the Commission to see that this partnership that we have with APS be maintained and that solar system owners be given credit for all the electricity they generate. If the Commission agrees to a change that would reduce the credit customers receive from APS for solar energy they generate, that change would hurt all of us who have tried to do the right thing by investing in solar. And it would destroy the solar industry in our state. The solar industry can, as prices for systems drop, be more and more important to the Arizona economy and needs to be encouraged, not squashed.

Please respond to my concerns. I would like your assurance that the solar energy policy in this state will remain unchanged while you are on the Commission.

Thank you for your attention to my letter,

Jayne Stake  
Constituent

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Brent Dubberstein [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 2:21 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** APS - Solar Meetings

Mr. Pierce,

I'm asking for your support in ~~not reducing~~ the amount APS is required to pay for excess solar energy. All excess energy should be paid by APS at the energy level produced. Peak payment for peak returned and non-peak at the non-peak rate.

Additionally, I urge you to eliminate all tariffs or other fees being applied to solar customers, which do not encourage the expanded use of solar by residential customers.

Respectfully,

Brent Dubberstein  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Ross Dodson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 3:36 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering

Dear Gary

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net-metering. Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar. Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment. Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it. I urge you to protect net metering.

Thanks

Ross Dodson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Buell Gary [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2013 12:13 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering

Dear Commissioner Pierce;

I am a solar owner, voter and utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net-metering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net-metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they are willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net-metering.

Sincerely,

Gary A. Buell  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear Commissioner Gary Pierce,

We are solar owners/supporters, voters and an APS utility customers and we are writing to urge you to protect net-metering and do not approve any utility company proposals in this area.

Net-metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net-metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment and contribution to the local/global energy grid. APS currently resells electrical power that our system produces and that we don't use to other customers at retail rates. However, it is interesting to note that APS only provides compensation to solar owners at year end for that excess electricity at a wholesale rate. That's a very fair rate of return to APS right there! That is the agreement that we signed in our contract with APS. While we don't necessarily like it and would prefer to receive retail rates for the excess energy we provide to the grid, that's the way our mutually agreed contract is written. However, if you start allowing changes to the net-metering program, we fear that we won't even get that much and worse, excess electrical energy that we don't use would not be used by anyone.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the energy grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

One other related point, in May 2012, the ACC approved an additional tariff on APS customers which began showing up on APS' bills in March 2013. The rationale provided for this additional tariff in the January bill was that APS is selling less electricity because more and more people are installing renewable systems such as solar or wind and that CFLs require less energy. Such proposals degrade incentives that are intended to encourage energy consumers' participation to reduce our overall energy footprint. Reducing our energy footprint should be a goal that we all strive for and APS needs to find other ways to improve/maintain its revenue stream by reducing overhead costs and management infrastructure instead of artificially propping up its revenue by using commission-sanctioned tariffs or adjustments to the here-to-for successful net-metering program.

We strongly disagree with the ACC's previous approval of the May 2012 energy tariff but moreover, we urge you to protect net-metering and disapprove any utility company proposals in this area that will surely have even further adverse impacts on solar owners. Alternatively, should you choose to approve some version of the net-metering proposals by the utility companies, we urge you to "grandfather" all existing solar owners having existing contracts with utility companies.

Sincerely,

*Lawrence Lloyd*  
*Margaret Lloyd*  
Lawrence & Margaret Lloyd

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██████████  
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**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Joseph Przybylo [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 4:12 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering

Dear Mr. Pierce:

I urge you to support net metering. Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am concerned that this could result in NOT properly compensating net-metering customers for their valuable energy investment. Here I try to go "green" and the utilities are taking it away from me!  
Thank You.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Przybylo  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Eric Van Eggs**

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**From:** Chad [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 29, 2013 1:49 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering:

Commissioner Pierce:

I recently learned (in a *May 10th* article in the *Phoenix Business Journal*) that Commissioner Susan Bitter-Smith has requested continued and broader hearings on the subject of Net Metering. She has apparently made this request because she feels the "APS net metering discussion requires a bigger forum and more public input". I concur;

As a home-owner with a home-solar-PV system I would like to go on-record as supporting "Net Metering" and continued hearings until the public's preferences are fully understood and respected.

Sincerely,  
Chad Haring  
Wickenburg, AZ 85390



Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 8389 (20130529)

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>

May 31, 2013

Commissioner Gary Pierce  
Arizona Corporation Commission  
1300 W. Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

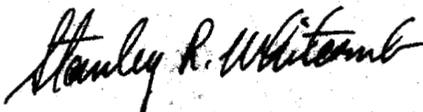
Dear Commissioner Pierce:

There have been several recent news stories in the local media regarding APS pursuing a change to the credit given solar customers for excess power generated. In particular, we noted some details in the May 16, 2013 edition of the Business Section of the Arizona Republic. We wish to disagree strongly with the APS position as we understand it.

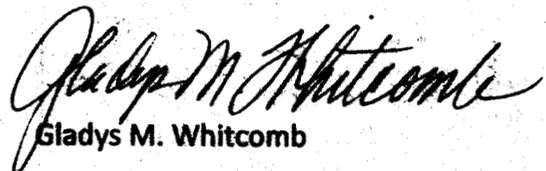
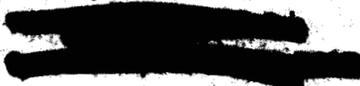
We moved into a 15 year old home in north Scottsdale with a flat roof last May. We decided to install a "whole house" solar system and it was "commissioned" by APS in September. The total cost was approx. \$34,800, partially offset by a \$10,400 federal tax credit, \$1,000 State tax credit, and \$4,620 rebate from APS (which we understand is a taxable event). Even with all that, the payback on the system is calculated at 8.5 years (not a particularly good investment for a capital item). In addition, we were told by our contractor that the panels begin to degrade at about 15 years, and may need to be replaced around 20 years out.

Your Commission set the "rule" that APS needs 15% of their power to be generated by renewable resources by 2025. If this rule and the incentives were not in place, no one would do it. We need the current credit structure to make this work financially. If APS is successful in their bid to lower the credit, and if we had known this in advance, we would never have made this investment. It is simply unfair to change the rules after the investment is made. We are asking you to do the right thing in refusing to lower any credit APS provides to their solar customers.

Very truly yours,



Stanley R. Whitcomb



Gladys M. Whitcomb

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2013 8:46 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** solar net metering

Dear Mr. Pierce,

Because my husband is in a memory care facility and it is very expensive, I decided to update the house in case I need to sell it.

Last year I signed a 20 year lease for solar panels hoping it would cut my electric bill. Since then I've had several statements from APS showing I have no charges for my electricity still I have to pay \$21 just for all their fees and taxes. Now APS is petitioning the Arizona Corporation Commission to eliminate "net-metering".

Please consider looking carefully into their request. If your commission agrees to their proposal, it will cost me more per month even though I'm not using much, if any, electricity, I can't afford to produce electricity to give to APS, and then have them sell it to other customers.

Thank you for taking time to read this. I'd appreciate a reply so that I know you have received this e-mail.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Barbara Schaffer Sun City West, AZ

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Louis Larochele [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2013 2:20 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Protect Net-Metering

Dear Commissioner:

We are solar owners/supporters, voters and a utility customers and we are writing to urge you to protect net-metering.

Net-metering is the billing arrangement that insures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net-metering program and we are highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investments.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other rate payers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they are willing to pay for it.

We urge you to protect net-metering.

Sincerely,

Louis and Diane Larochele

[REDACTED]  
Goodyear, AZ  
[REDACTED]

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Zenaida Gowans [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2013 3:28 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Solar-Net-Metering

**Dear Commissioner Gary Pierce,**

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net-metering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the State are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it. I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,  
Anthony Gowans

[REDACTED]  
Glendale, AZ 85303

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** James Packer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 30, 2013 5:35 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Don't change netmetering.

Dear Gary Pierce,

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect netmetering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,  
James Packer

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Paul [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 31, 2013 9:57 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net Metering Decision

Dear Commissioner Pierce:

I want to strongly protest any changes you are considering to the Net Metering policy now in place at Arizona Public Service and Arizona in general. Any changes will adversely affect homeowners and businesses with solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays, as well as future development of solar energy in Arizona.

My residence has a PV Array that is properly sized to make this residence a "Net Zero Electric Energy" home. This is not possible without net metering, nor would it have been undertaken without net metering available. If net metering is removed by fiat decree of the ACC, there will be a direct economic impact to this citizen:

Significant Diminution of the Market Value of this residence

Increased cost to purchase power that used to be "banked"

Un-reimbursed "taking" of excess power produced

More broadly, the inability to "bank" excess production through net metering will prevent the viability of deploying almost all but utility owned solar PV in Arizona. This will be nationally and internationally embarrassing to the State so ideally poised to garner the benefits of power generation via solar PV. Individual and class action lawsuits will likely follow to address the significant loss of market value to each installation and the unjust enrichment by APS. Lawyers and appraisers will prosper at the expense of all Arizona taxpayers in the struggle to correct this illegal governmental taking that you are deciding.

The Arizona Corporation Commission is supposed to serve and protect the citizens of Arizona, not the corporations and utilities that you regulate. Your actions against net metering will be duly noted in our courts and by the electorate. Please choose wisely.

Sincerely,

Paul and Anne Cooper

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Kristy Bryant [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 31, 2013 4:41 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Support Net-Metering

Dear Mr. Pierce,

I am a solar owner, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net metering. Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar. This is one of the main reasons why I went solar, and I have enjoyed the benefits of net metering and feel that I am entitled to those benefits. If my solar panels are providing more energy than I am using, I should be credited for that power that I am supplying to the utility companies.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment. Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it. I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,

--  
Kristy Bryant

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Leif Jonassen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 01, 2013 3:41 PM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Protect net metering

Dear Commissioner Pierce,

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net metering.

As you know, the utilities in the state are trying to make a case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am very concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net metering customers for our valuable energy investment.

Home owners have spent their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,

Leif Jonassen  
[REDACTED]

Payson, Az 85541

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** charlene hall [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 02, 2013 8:57 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Net-Metering

Dear Gary Pierce

[pierce-web@azcc.gov](mailto:pierce-web@azcc.gov)

I am a solar owner, a voter and a utility customer and am writing to urge you to protect *Net-Metering*.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commissioner has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change it's successful net metering program and I am very concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for the valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a multitude of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net-metering.

Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Gary & Charlene Hall

**Eric Van Epps**

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**From:** Dan Trimble [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 02, 2013 10:45 AM  
**To:** Pierce-Web  
**Subject:** Protect the current Net-Metering program

I am a solar owner/supporter, a voter and a utility customer and I am writing to urge you to protect net-metering.

Net metering is the billing arrangement that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during daytime hours. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and I am highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

Home and business owners expend their own capital to install systems that provide a myriad of benefits to the grid and other ratepayers. Net-metering also allows utility customers to make their own individual choice about where they get their electricity, what type of electricity they want and how much they're willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering.

Sincerely,

Dan Trimble

Ernest and Eileen Bump

[REDACTED]

Sun City West, AZ 85373

Dear Mr. Pierce:

My husband and I are solar owners and we are writing to urge you to protect net metering.

Net metering is the billing that ensures solar customers receive fair credit for the valuable clean power they deliver to the grid for others to use during the daytime. It is one of the most important policy tools the Commission has for empowering homes, businesses, schools, and public agencies to go solar.

Utilities in the state are trying to make the case that Arizona should change its successful net metering program and we are highly concerned that this could result in not properly compensating net-metered customers for their valuable energy investment.

We have expended our own capital to benefit ourselves, our neighbors, and the environment. Net metering has also allowed us to make a choice about where we get our electricity from and how much we are willing to pay for it.

I urge you to protect net metering. It also saves the electric companies from building new plants and polluting the environment.

Sincerely,

*Ernest and Eileen Bump*

Ernest and Eileen Bump