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July 7, 2013

Arizona Corporation Commission Chairman Bob Stump
Commissioner Susan Bitter-Smith
Commissioner Bob Burns
Commissioner Brenda Burns
Commissioner Gary Pierce
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Arizona Corporation Commission
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JUL 15 2013

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Dear Chairman Stump and Commissioners:

Representatives from several organizations recently participated in a meeting which dealt in part with solar energy. While the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. Board of Directors are appreciative that Arizona Public Service would reach out to us to explain their position on net metering, we respectfully disagree with their position. Simply put APS wants to change the rules after so many of us on fixed incomes invested in solar power to save money. APS wants to eliminate net metering because they don't want to pay a fair retail price for the excess energy rooftop solar users send back to the grid. Although they continued to express that they support solar, we were left unconvinced.

Many of us in Sun City embrace solar energy because we understand how emerging technologies can be good for our budgets as well as the environment. We made the investment in solar energy because it saves us money and helps us control our electricity costs; that's a big deal for those of us on fixed incomes. However, we also believe that the investment we made in the infrastructure of solar on our homes provides a benefit to the community as a whole by placing electricity back on the grid to help lessen peak load, in addition to the long-term benefit of helping avoid costly infrastructure.

We heard over and over again, that we do not pay our "fair share," but we are here to tell you that those who invested in the infrastructure of solar on their rooftops benefits all customers, as well as, they pay a monthly amount to APS even though they use little to no energy.

In a market where APS has 1.1 million customers who do not have a choice as to who services them, we hope that you can understand how we do not believe that the 18,000 homes that have solar can be that big of a threat. We also hope you do not take away the one choice we do have, conserving energy to manage our costs. They claim solar energy customers are costing them money because we use less power. It's time for our utility company to realize they are operating in the 21st century; and they need to embrace solar energy and not fight it.

Sincerely,

W James Brasher

W James Brasher, President
Board of Directors
10626 W Thunderbird Blvd Sun City AZ 85351
P: 623-561-4620 / F: 623-561-4601
www.suncityaz.us

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