

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



0000147142

E-01345A-13-0248

SUSAN BITTER SMITH
Commissioner

Direct Line: (602) 542-3625
Fax: (602) 542-3669
E-mail: Bittersmith-web@azcc.gov

RECEIVED
2013 AUG - 5 11:09 AM
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION



August 1, 2013

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Sheila Muehling
7949 E. Chama Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255-2799

Dear Sheila,

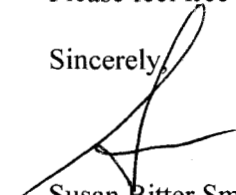
I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has now received a proposal from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding public meetings on this proposal later this year. Scheduling of these meetings will be announced later this summer.

APS's proposal is simply that-a proposal. As you have appropriately pointed out, this has resulted in a political campaign on both sides. Sheila, please know I will be looking at facts relevant to this issue and not the political mailings.

Your letter will be made a part of the public record. You can track the case's activity by visiting the Commission's eDocket website, <http://edocket.azcc.gov/edocket/>, and entering the docket number E-01345A-13-0248.

Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincerely,


Susan Bitter Smith
Commissioner

Thank to her for you!

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
AUG - 5 2013

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ORIGINAL

July 24 2013

Arizona Corporate Commission
Hearings Division
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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2013 JUL 29 P 4:27

CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JUL 29 2013

RE: Docket # E-01345A-13-0248

DOCKETED BY	NR
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Dear Members of the Arizona Corporate Commission:

As a homeowner, a registered voter and a residential contractor in Arizona, as well as a small business owner and a member of the Tea Party, I felt compelled to write to the Arizona Corporate Commission regarding the proposals currently being considered as it relates to APS and current and future solar customers.

Several years ago solar power costs began to come down and consumer's interest rose. Still skeptical about the cost and the efficiency of solar, customers held off waiting to see if new technology would lower costs of energy if the were to use solar panels to generate electricity in their homes.

With new solar companies opening in Arizona as well as other Southwestern states, many of my clients have begun to consider purchasing solar panels for their homes. Most of my clients did their homework and found the investment in solar was becoming a more viable option for their long-term energy cost.

Until recently the government and the power companies encouraged people to add solar to their homes offering large cash credits on energy bills and taxes. One of my clients installed a \$23,000.00 system and after tax and APS energy incentives had a net investment of \$4,500.00. After only two years he is close to recovering his investment.

Neighbors, friends and relatives of new solar customers watched and waited to see if the promises of solar in savings for home energy bills would be recognized. Many of those same people are now ready to move forward, installing solar panels on homes and business structures.

However, as with everything recently, no one is able to trust the system or those that regulate it. Suddenly APS is claiming they are losing profits due to net metering rebates. Their contention is, rebating customers for excess electricity generated and passed back to APS was too much of a financial burden. Electricity was being returned to the grid through the APS equipment and the client who was passing that energy back to APS, was not paying their fair share of maintenance needs for the APS equipment.

It is hard for me to understand how everything advertised and promised by APS just a few short years ago could be so bad now. APS ran a robust public relations campaign encouraging solar energy as a cost savings for homeowners. However,

suddenly they are just not making enough money and homeowners are saving too much; now the solar customers must pay more.

It is my belief that APS isn't losing money at all but they are instead seeing how much more they can make if they have a profit in the solar produced excess energy. If they can farm that energy for a discounted price and sell it for a profit, then all the more in their own pockets.

I object to the Arizona Corporate Commission allowing APS to use its power and clout to demand more money for shareholders. Small solar companies are part of the re-building of our country; a situation that most of us would agree was a disaster caused by poor judgment and greed on the part of the powerful in this country. It is time to stand up for small business instead of folding to the demands of large corporations like APS.

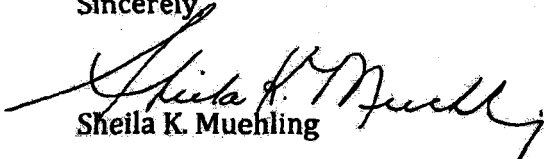
I would also like to bring to your attention a recent mailing by APS or a representative of APS claiming that all solar homeowners were receiving, "**more than five times the fair market rate**" for the excess power they generate. In this brochure, APS claims they are forced to pay these rebates resulting in higher costs to customers like me who buy APS power. They claim net metering sets the policy and they must abide by it. They claim that you, the Arizona Corporate Commission set the rates that in turn forces APS to lose money.

I took time to call a couple of my clients who have solar power and they said this claim was absolutely not true. They receive the equal credits, as they would pay if they had to buy additional kilowatt-hours of electricity.

I am angry that a public utility could put out these types of advertising to tug at the emotions and fear of the public. This is absolutely unacceptable and as a person who is active in the political arena here in Arizona I plan to follow up with this type of false literature at meetings and forums I participate in. I am enclosing this brochure for your convenience in case you have not received it at your own homes.

I trust that you will consider carefully the needs of utility companies as it relates to the needs of the public who depend on honesty on the commission. You have to separate yourselves from APS and consider denying any increases of rates.

Sincerely,


Sheila K. Muehling

Founder & Immediate Past President of Tea Party Patriots of Scottsdale & Paradise Valley



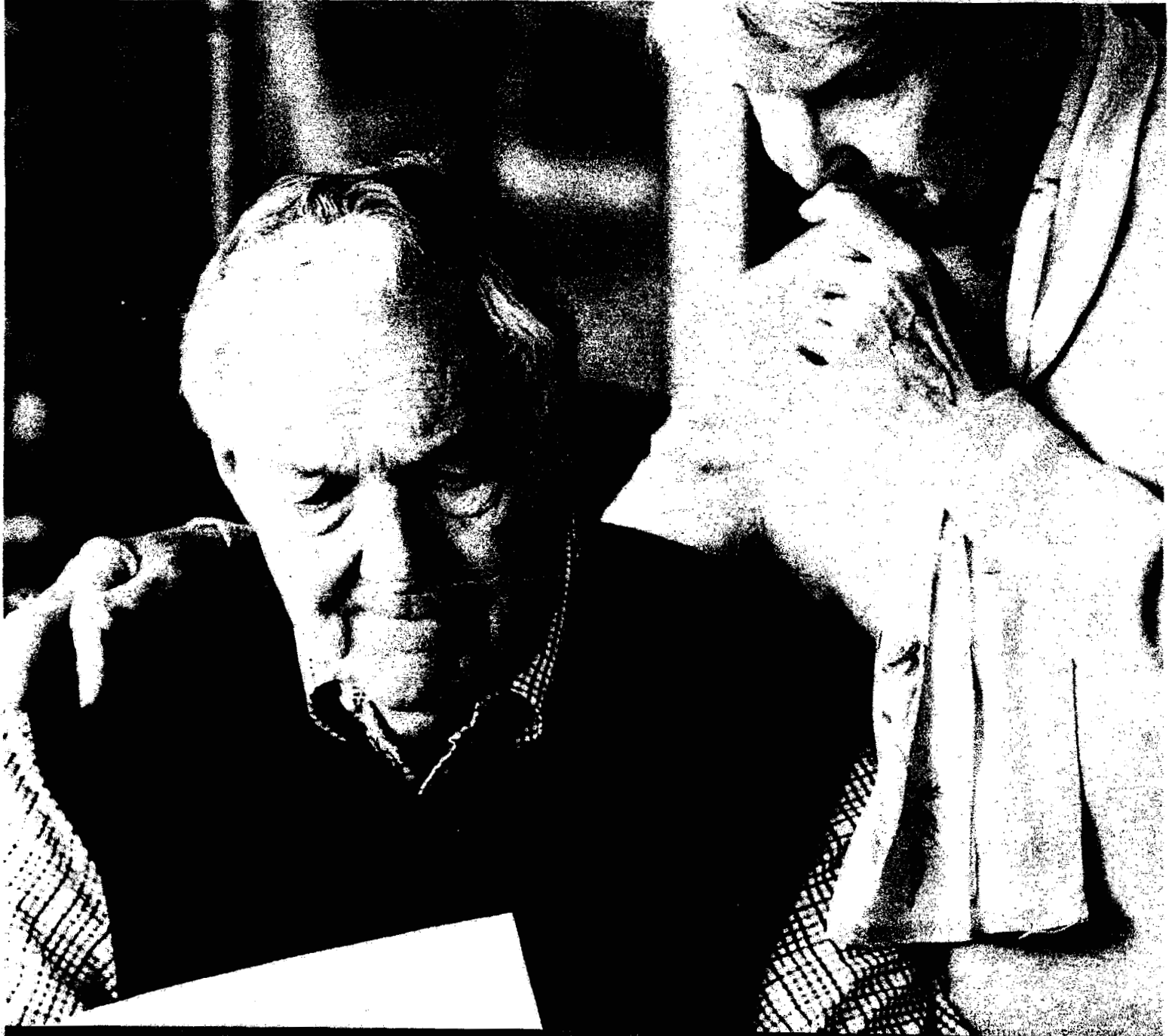
515 King Street, Suite 315
Alexandria, VA 22314

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SCOTTSDALE AZ 85255-2799

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Paid for and Authorized by The 60 Plus Association, Inc.



**THE PRICE YOU PAY FOR ELECTRICITY
IS ABOUT TO GO UP AGAIN!**

Net Metering INCREASES The Price YOU PAY For Electricity!

What is net metering?

We all know utility companies buy and sell electricity. But you may not know that when a homeowner or business installs a solar system, they can generate excess electricity that **MUST** be purchased by their utility company. The company is currently forced to pay **more than five times the fair market rate** for the excess electricity. They pass that cost on to YOU. Net metering is the policy that sets the price utilities are **required** to pay.



What is wrong with net metering?

We support solar and know customers with solar should be compensated for the excess energy they produce. But right now, for every \$3 in energy a solar customer sends back to the grid, they're given \$16 in credit, forcing utilities to raise prices for other customers. It is wrong that YOU must PAY MORE for your electricity because of someone else's choice. The average home solar system adds \$20,000 in costs for non-solar customers like you.



What can be done?

The Arizona Corporation Commission sets the prices we pay for gas, water, and electricity. The commission will decide how to update net metering.

If the commission continues to force utilities to pay unfair prices for excess electricity generated by solar, YOU will continue to pay higher prices. Take action today and stop subsidizing your neighbor's solar panels.

Sign our petition at AZSolarFacts.com to ask the Arizona Corporation Commission to update their net metering policy, so YOU don't have to pay higher prices!

COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP – Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

SUSAN BITTER SMITH
Commissioner
Direct Line: (602) 542-3625
Fax: (602) 542-3669
E-mail: Bittersmith-web@azcc.gov

August 1, 2013

Robert MacCallum
14714 W. Via Montoya
Sun City West, AZ 85375

Dear Robert,

I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has now received a proposal from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding public meetings on this proposal later this year. Scheduling of these meetings will be announced later this summer.

Your letter will be made a part of the public record. You can track the case's activity by visiting the Commission's eDocket website, <http://edocket.azcc.gov/edocket/>, and entering the docket number E-01345A-13-0248.

Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Bitter Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Susan Bitter Smith
Commissioner

To: Commissioner Susan Bitter Smith,

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington

Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Dear Commission Smith,

Recently I received a letter from APS telling me that I was not paying my "fair share" on my electric bill because I had the audacity to invest in solar panels for my home. I had done this in response to urging by APS so they could apparently comply with a federal government mandate concerning "alternative fuel" sources. I was told at the time that if I committed to a 20 year lease for solar panels and related equipment, I would not only avoid future cost increases but would benefit from being able to "sell" electricity to APS at the wholesale rate of .05 cents a KWH to offset the use of grid electricity at night or on cloudy days that I would have to buy at .094 cents to .174 cents per KWH .

By telling me that I'm not paying my "fair share" do they mean that my electricity isn't worth anything or that they feel a 100 to 300% mark-up is not sufficient? I'm sorry but that's the kind of mark-up jewelers get on diamonds and they are very happy with it.

The letter indicated I would be "grandfathered" into the old rate because I have an existing system. If that's the case, why bother to tell me I'm not paying my "fair share". You and I know that if they are allowed to change the rules of the game, it is only a matter of time before "grandfather" passes away. Just ask any Native American about grandfathered treaties.

Please make APS keep their promises and tell them to look elsewhere for additional revenue.

Sincerely,



Robert MacCallum

14714 W. Via Montoya, Sun City West, AZ 85375

623-214-5660

CC: Governor Jan Brewer

COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP – Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

SUSAN BITTER SMITH
Commissioner
Direct Line: (602) 542-3625
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E-mail: Bittersmith-web@azcc.gov

July 26, 2013

Michael Grossman
Chairman of the Board
The Green Chamber of Greater Phoenix
3104 E. Camelback Road, PMB 613
Phoenix, AZ 85016

Dear Mr. Grossman,

Thank you for the very thoughtful letter regarding net metering and deregulation. I appreciated your balanced approach and understanding of these complex issues.

I will work hard to make my most informed decisions and I appreciate your offer of help as a resource.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Susan Bitter Smith", written over a horizontal line.

Susan Bitter Smith
Commissioner



Advancing a Sustainable Economy

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2013 JUL 18 P 4:40

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

JUL 18 2013

DOCKETED BY	nr
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July 16, 2013
Arizona Corporation Commission
Commissioners Wing
1200 West Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Attention:
Chairman Bob Stump
Commissioner Brenda Burns
Commissioner Gary Pierce
Commissioner Susan Bitter Smith
Commissioner Bob Burns

E-000011-13-0135

The Green Chamber of Greater Phoenix is committed to advancing sustainable and diverse economic development in Arizona. Our membership includes small privately-owned to large publically-owned companies, as well as individual contractors, entrepreneurs and experienced policy analysts, all of whom provide the Green Chamber with a wealth of knowledge from every perspectives regarding energy and sustainable development.

We support the Arizona Corporation Commission as you begin your careful review, evaluation and consideration of such daunting energy regulatory matters as those of Net Metering and Deregulation. The Green Chamber is proud to have as members a vast array of solar companies, as well as utility providers APS, SRP, and Southwest Gas; and we would like to offer our industry expertise and educational services to the ACC.


Our members recognize the challenges faced by the Commissioners in their constitutional duty of assuring that energy is consistently available and reliably provided to all Arizona residents at rates that are just and reasonable, while maintaining the public service providers' opportunity to earn a fair and reasonable profit. However, just as the great recession recently showed Arizonans that a diverse economic market is necessary to sustain job growth and revenue in a sluggish economy; having a diverse energy portfolio is equally vital in securing Arizona's competitive position in the global economy by preserving our natural resources, improving our energy sustainability, and stimulating local growth, investment, and prosperity.

Arizona is only beginning to diversify its energy portfolio. While we rely heavily on traditional fuels to meet our energy needs, over the last several years we have seen a great deal of growth in the renewable energy sector thanks to the ACC and Governor Brewer. That growth equates to more business opportunities in Arizona, expanded job creation, new investments in real estate, and a greater ripple effect throughout the State's economy.

There is no question that public service providers are essential in assuring Arizona's energy needs are met reliably and consistently; but the renewable energy industry, especially solar, has proven to be a formidable source of energy and jobs for this great State as well. The renewable energy industry will continue to blossom, thereby strengthening Arizona's competitive edge in the global market, as long as the ACC continues to ensure it is a part of the State's energy portfolio. It is the hope of the Green Chamber that the ACC will be able to successfully find that delicate balance of making the rates just and reasonable while encouraging job and economic growth through the promotion of the renewable energy industry.

As the Net Metering and Deregulation discussions progress, we hope you will look the Green Chamber as a valuable resource for industry knowledge. We appreciate your due diligence and your desire to make informed decisions on these two very delicate issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Grossman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Grossman
Chairman of the Board
The Green Chamber of Greater Phoenix

COMMISSIONERS
BOB STUMP – Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH



ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

SUSAN BITTER SMITH
Commissioner
Direct Line: (602) 542-3625
Fax: (602) 542-3669
E-mail: Bittersmith-web@azcc.gov

July 16, 2013

W. James Brasher
President
Board of Directors
Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc.
10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351

Dear Mr. Brasher,

I received the letter that you sent to me and would like to thank you for sharing your concerns about Net metering with me. The Commission has now received a proposal from APS regarding Net metering. Technical conferences have been held about this issue. The Commission will be holding public meetings on this proposal later this year. Scheduling of these meetings will be announced later this summer.

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Please feel free to contact my office for more information at (602) 542-3625.

Sincerely,

Susan Bitter Smith
Commissioner

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

Dear Chairman Stump and Commissioners:

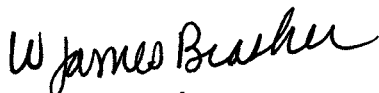
Representatives from several organizations recently participated in a meeting which dealt in part with solar energy. While the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. Board of Directors are appreciative that Arizona Public Service would reach out to us to explain their position on net metering, we respectfully 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